

Hafa Adai!

Specialist to operate on kids
with cleft lips, palates.

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CNMI gets \$12M to complete
CUC oil pipe, dump closure.

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Saipan Tribune

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75¢

BSI close to inking land leases

By JOEL D. PINAROC
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REPORTER

Best Sunshine International, Ltd. is close to signing a lease deal with the government on a 1.5-hectare property in Garapan, which the company will use to build a 250-room hotel and casino.

In addition to the Garapan property, a 40-hectare property in Marpi is also being eyed by the Department of Public Land for lease to Best Sunshine.

DPL Secretary Pete Tenorio said last week that with the settlement of an ongoing legal tussle between Best Sunshine and H.S. Lee on the

See BSI on Page 4

Cop arrested on 'ice' charges

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Agents of the Attorney General's Investigation Division arrested on Friday night a police officer in connection with alleged trafficking of metham-

phetamine or "ice."

Sources disclosed that AGID agents served the arrest warrant on Police Officer 1 Carl Tudela in San Antonio at about 7pm to 8pm.

Sources said Tudela is assigned to the Department of Public Safety's patrol section.

Department of Public Safety Commissioner James Deleon Guerrero said it was a joint DPS-AGID operation and that he will issue a statement today, Monday.

See COP on Page 4

As world moves on, MH370 families find solace in each other

By DIDI TANG
ASSOCIATED PRESS

NANJING, China (AP)—For the past year, Wang Zheng has been avoiding one place: the modest apartment where his parents had been living for more than 20 years in downtown Nanjing until they vanished along with the ill-fated Malaysia Airlines Flight 370.

Scrolls of paintings by his father, **See MH370 on Page 4**

RELATED NEWS

► Of a plane still missing, and a planet still vast.
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NEW CABINET MEMBERS

Gov. Eloy S. Inos, right, swears in Richard Seman, left, and Mark O. Rabauliman as secretaries of the departments of Lands and Natural Resources and Commerce respectively on Capital Hill in front of supporters on Friday.

JOEL D. PINAROC

See story on Page 2

5-year term for man who had sex with girl, 15

» **Elderly mother faints in court after defendant is allowed to say goodbye**

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A 37-year-old man who sexually abused a 15-year-old girl on Rota was sentenced to a maximum of five years in prison, without the possibility of parole.

Steve Barcinas Cabrera was convicted of sexual abuse of a minor in the third degree.

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho also sentenced Cabrera to the maximum of five years in prison, all suspended, for violating his probation related to a previous criminal conviction. Both sen-

tences shall run consecutively.

Cabrera was given credit for 44 days of time served. That means the total prison term is five years minus 44 days.

Cabrera asked that he be allowed a month to prepare himself before reporting to the Department of Corrections on Saipan. This request was denied, with Camacho telling Cabrera that

See 5-YEAR on Page 4

INSIDE

WORLD

Two suspects in the killing of opposition figure Boris Nemtsov have been detained.

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HEALTH & FITNESS

Health officials say people should eat less sugar. But that's easier said than done.

» PAGE 18

LIFE & STYLE

Harrison Ford crash-lands his World War II-era plane on a golf course.

» PAGE 19



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Local

Congress hearing includes funding for Rota National Park study

BY JOEL D. PINAROC
joel_pinaroc@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

President Barack Obama has included federal funding for a feasibility study on the declaration of a national park on Rota in the government's budget for fiscal year 2016.

In an update, Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) said the funding was discussed on Thursday during the House Natural Resources Committee

oversight hearing on President Obama's fiscal year 2016 budget proposal for the Department of the Interior.

The President included funding for the Rota National Park study, which was only just approved last December, in the National Defense Authorization Act, Sablan said.

According to him, the study will provide opportunity for public input and consider the addition of areas on Rota, al-

ready determined to be of national significance to the National Park System.

"This could have an enormously positive effect on Rota's economy and boost tourism throughout the Mariana Islands," Sablan said.

The President's fiscal year 2016 budget also includes funding for other programs of benefit to the Northern Marianas, including operation and maintenance of the American

Memorial Park, historic preservation, land and water Conservation, and the state wildlife programs.

In December, the U.S. National Defense Authorization Act included authorization of a study on the suitability and feasibility of establishing a national park on Rota.

The National Park Service said "the southernmost island of the CNMI preserves striking examples of the 3,000-year-old

Chamorro culture surrounded by the best remaining expanse of this island chain's native limestone forest."

The Mochon Latte Village, the Chugai Pictograph Cave, the Taga Latte Stone Quarry, and the Alaguan Bay Ancient Village prehistoric sites include architectural features unique to the ancient Chamorro culture and represent outstanding examples of the island's cultural resource, the agency said.

Rabauliman and Seman sworn in

Mark O. Rabauliman and Richard Seman were sworn in Friday to lead the Department of Commerce and Department of Lands and Natural Resources, respectively.

Gov. Eloy S. Inos swore in the incoming Cabinet officials on Capital Hill in front of supporters.

The swearing-in ceremony followed the two officials' Senate confirmation on March 5.

Seman was the first to be confirmed as top honcho of DLNR, followed by Rabauliman who will lead Commerce.

Seman and Rabauliman are expected to immediately buckle down to work and address the concerns of their respective departments.

Seman and Rabauliman were both nominated for their respective posts in January.

Seman, who earlier bid adieu to his House of Representatives seat, said he is grateful for Inos and Lt. Gov. Ralph DLG Torres' trust in him to lead once again an important agency like DLNR. He takes over from now Sen. Arnold I. Palacios (R-Saipan), who was sworn in as senator in the 19th Legislature.

For his part, Rabauliman said he looks forward to continue leading the agency, which is responsible for growing the economy.

Rabauliman has been serving as acting secretary since former Commerce secretary and now Sen. Sixto Igisomar (R-Saipan) took a leave of absence to run in the special elections for senator.

(Joel D. Pinaroc)

Delta is first title sponsor of 2015 MMAC

By JAYSON CAMACHO
jayson_camacho@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Delta Air Lines became the first title sponsor of the 2015 Marianas March Against Cancer after donating passenger tickets and travel vouchers last Friday at Delta's check-in area inside the Francisco C. Ada International Airport.

Chris Concepcion, Delta sales account executive, presented the in-kind donation that included one main cabin ticket to anywhere in the United States, one main cabin ticket to Japan, and \$600 worth of travel vouchers.

Delta is now a title sponsor, the topmost level sponsorship, which goes to a sponsor that donates \$3,000 or more in cash or in-kind.

"Delta is pleased to be named the first confirmed title sponsor of the 2015 MMAC. We are thrilled to continue our support of the MMAC and the Commonwealth Cancer Association in their efforts to spread cancer awareness in our community," Concepcion said.

"They also provide support for those currently battling this



JAYSON CAMACHO

Delta Air Lines sales account executive Chris Concepcion, third from right, presents the company's in-kind donations to 2015 Marianas March Against Cancer committee overall chair Diana Benavente, fourth from right, her committees, and staff from the Commonwealth Cancer Association Friday morning.

dreadful disease so we hope our donation will help raise badly needed funds for the fight against cancer. We encourage the community to come out and support all 2015 MMAC teams on May 1-2," he added.

MMAC overall committee chair Diana I. Benavente was very grateful for the donation.

"We truly appreciate Delta

for their donation because the raffle tickets that we sell is usually the first to run out and everybody really wants that chance to have that ticket and travel vouchers. We're really excited that Delta has supported us again this year and we're glad also that they are our title sponsors," Benavente said.

Businesses, individuals, and

organizations that also wish to support the 2015 MMAC may donate funds, services, or raffle items. Sponsorship levels include title sponsor (donating \$3,000 or more), major sponsor (donating \$1,000 to \$2,999), or supporting sponsorship (donating \$1 to \$999).

This year's event will be held at the Hopwood Junior

High School field from May 1 to 2. Money raised from MMAC is used by CCA to promote cancer awareness and prevention, provide patient support services, and serve as the liaison and advocate for cancer issues in the CNMI.

For donations, call committee chair Nola Hix at 989-6652 or email at nola.hix@gmail.com.



A weekly update from the Marianas Visitors Authority

Tourism is everybody's business.

Saipan Sports Fest 2015

The Annual TAGAMAN Triathlon will celebrate its 26th running of the event on Saipan on March 22, 2015. The registration deadline is March 19, 2015.

Once again, the TAGAMAN Triathlon will offer both a Half Ironman and Olympic Distance events. Cash prizes for the Elite Division for Half Ironman only, and awards for the Age Group Division will be awarded respectively. There will also be a relay with awards only.

The TAGAMAN has gone through several changes over the years, making the course more interesting for triathletes and better for spectators, and for the second year in a row, extending the race to half-ironman distance, utilizing the same basic course outline. There will also be an additional shorter course of the Olympic Distance.

The "crown jewel" of XTERRA racing celebrates its 14th year with the XTERRA Saipan Championship on March 28, 2015! The registration deadline is March 23, 2015. Earn slots to the XTERRA World



Championship held every October in Maui. For the professional triathlete, there is a prize purse of \$15,000 up for grabs. Experience all that XTERRA Saipan has to offer - including a swim in the beautiful, crystal blue ocean waters of Garapan, the grueling off-road climbs up Navy Hill and Mt. Tapochau, and an unforgettable trail run through dense tropical jungle and World War II era caves. Entries fees are \$150 for Individuals and \$240 for Team Relays.

For more information or to register on-line, visit www.saipansportsfest.com.



Specialist to operate on kids with cleft lips, palates

After providing two resident doctors from the University of California, San Francisco, the Larry L. Hillblom Foundation, Inc. will again be shouldering the expenses for another specialist to come to Saipan in

early April.

Dr. William Hoffman, a plastic surgeon from California, will be on Saipan from April 6 to 15. He will be one of the first doctors, through the Hillblom Foundation, to visit Saipan

to provide surgery for children with cleft lips.

Consultations with Dr. Hoffman, along with the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. hospital staff, will be from April 6 to 8, while surgeries will be done

from April 8 to 10.

In a notice to hospital employees and executives, Rowena H. Alturas, head nurse of the Commonwealth Health Center Family Care Clinic, requested them to bring patient referrals to the clinic due to the limited appointments. Alturas said that Dr. Hoffman will only see patients who have cleft lips and palates.

The Hillblom Foundation earlier provided funding for two resident doctors from UCSF to train, experience, and teach CNMI doctors during their stay on the island that ends this March.

In related news, CHCC chief

executive officer Esther Muña said another specialist from Illinois will be coming to Saipan on March 16. Dr. Charles Weingarten is an ENT specialist who specializes in the ears, nose, and throat and some related areas of the head and neck.

He will be available from March 16 to 27 at CHC's Family Care Clinic. He will also be visiting CHC on a quarterly bases.

In an earlier interview, Muña said the hospital will make do for now with visiting specialists due to the hospital's limited funds. "Even though we have limited funding to provide specific health specialists, we are trying to provide more of those by inviting specialists from off-island to conduct checkups on our patients," she said. *(Jayson Camacho)*

Businesses, hotels asked to join 2015 Hospitality Expo

Hotels and business owners are being invited to join the first ever 2015 Hospitality Expo that will showcase what CNMI businesses have to offer.

The Hospitality Expo, hosted by Island Training Solutions, Latte Training Academy and the American Hotel and Lodging Educational Institute Training Partner, will be held on March 27.

There will be no fees for booths or participation in the job fair, but Island Training Solutions is asking each vendor to donate a raffle prize for

participants.

Island Training Solutions principal Jim Arenovski said the goal of this expo is to showcase all the hotels' amenities, banquet facilities, restaurants, bars, spas, memberships, products, etc.

He pointed out that many in the public still do not understand the depth of opportunities for business and employment in the hospitality industry.

"This would be an opportunity to meet business owners, managers, vendors, and government agencies as well as the general public and promote

your resort or hotel for new products, specials, meetings, and banquets. We are also hoping to have a small job fair as well. We would like to list the different occupations offered at the hotel to showcase the variety of employment and career opportunities available in the hospitality industry. Of course, hotels are welcome to bring applications and recruit as they see fit," Arenovski said.

For registration or questions, contact Arenovski at 287-7037 or email deltamgt@pticom.com. *(Jayson Camacho)*

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Public hearing on Garapan archeological dig tonight

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The public hearing for Best Sunshine International, Ltd.'s archaeological recovery project in Garapan is set for tonight at 6pm at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center.

Division of Coastal Resource Management officials will hold

the site permitting hearing for the project located in the former Samoan Housing area.

The Garapan site in front of T Galleria has been identified as part of BSI's \$7.1-billion integrated casino resort project.

The DCRM board is composed of various regulatory agencies such as Historic Preservation Office, Department of

Public Works, Coastal Resources Management, Department of Commerce, Department of Lands and Natural Resources, and the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.

HPO had supported the project in a recent boarding meeting.

It was reported that BSI has hired a firm from Hawaii, which

has agreed to work in coordination with Marianas Area Research Center out of University of Hawaii as well as University of Guam in order to do the archaeological dig.

HPO anticipates the archaeological dig to reveal information about a transitional phase in ancient Chamorro history not available anywhere else, like

ancient burial grounds and a Spanish colonial site.

Archaeologists plan to open up the site so that any school

can schedule to come and view the site or take a tour of what's happening or what is found there, it was reported.

NMC focuses on future labor needs

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Northern Marianas College president Dr. Sharon Hart says they are "on target" for the U.S. Department of Labor's apprenticeship grant due in April this year.

The college is "taking a leadership role," she said at a recent board meeting.

The CNMI is vying for the \$2- to \$4-million grant, with NMC taking a leadership role in the grant writing.

The grant is among the \$100 million in grants being offered by Labor to expand registered apprenticeship programs across the United States.

The \$100-million initiative is intended to expand registered apprenticeship programs over the country in industries like healthcare, biotechnology, information technology, and advanced manufacturing.

This falls in line with the workforce development initiatives that they shared with the Legislature in last week's roundtable meeting.

Hart said they and other institutions have helped Labor with data on the CNMI workforce and its needs.

The Commonwealth foreign worker program is set to

end in 2019.

According to dean of administration David Attao, the total estimated cost for the college to train individuals for job zones provided by CNMI Labor would be \$68,871,000.

For Labor, their costs to train these individuals is estimated to be \$144,445,444.

The top positions held by CW workers are maids and housekeepers, general and operations managers, janitors and cleaners, waiter and waitresses, accountants and auditors, retail salespersons, security guards, cashiers, cooks, cement masons and concrete finishers, carpenters, among others.

Attao, in his presentation to lawmakers, pointed out how "NMC remains responsive to community needs"—with its bachelor's degree in business administration, education, and associate degrees in nursing, criminal justice, and liberal arts.

Also, NMC's Community Development Institute helps nursing students in their NCLEX test preparation, and health careers. It also provides community service and personal enrichment courses for English and other language development, and other cultural and community courses.

MH370

From Page 1

Wang Linshi, are in piles in the living room, the guest bedroom, and the studio. Paintbrushes — their heads long dry — hang from a workstation in a row. In the kitchen, the floor and stove have collected a thin layer of dust.

Wang Zheng, the only son of Wang Linshi and Xiong Deming, said he only comes into the apartment in this eastern Chinese city when absolutely necessary.

"I spend as little time as possible," the 30-year-old said. "It's uncomfortable here. I always dream about my parents after coming here."

Like other relatives of the 239 people that disappeared aboard MH370 in the early hours of March 8, 2014, Wang has gone through an emotional roller coaster that has hurled him through grief and hope, guilt and anger over the past year.

Apart from the rest of the world, the families have banded together in a desperate, continuing quest to find the plane and their loved ones. Many other people have long accepted the Malaysian government's pronouncements that the passengers surely have been lost in the ocean.

The relatives continue to petition governments, pore over details of technical analyses, raise doubts and demand answers. They feel helpless most of the time, praying during day and sobbing at night.

"The public does not understand us, but we need to know the truth," Wang said.

Losing loved ones who are unaccounted for is especially excruciating, said Pauline Boss, professor emeritus of fam-

ily social science at University of Minnesota. She coined the phrase "ambiguous loss" and has spent her career studying how people cope with it.

"They are suffering the most difficult kind of loss that you could imagine," Boss said, adding that the sufferings transcend wealth, education, culture and religion. "Your loved ones have vanished and you have no proof of death. But human beings need to have a body, they need to have proof or evidence, or they will forever hold onto the sliver of hope that their loved ones are still alive."

Worried that authorities might end the search efforts, family members of MH370 passengers and crew members have urged them to continue scouring every possible place.

"It's almost a year. There is no proof, no debris, not a single piece of evidence to tell us that they are really in the Indian Ocean," said Jacquita Gomes, wife of in-flight supervisor Patrick Gomes, said at her home in a suburb of Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia's capital. "If this is really the end, show us something. Even if it's just one finger, then we can say goodbye properly and send him to our Lord."

"We cannot move on, we cannot let go because we don't know what happened," said Grace Subathirai Nathan, whose mother, Anne Daisy, was on the flight. "It's impossible for us to write off someone we love so much."

On Facebook and Twitter, the family members have banded together in a support group under the name "Cry for Truth." Social media have made it easier for them to support each other, share information and make collective

decisions when responding to authorities or the media.

In a statement issued Thursday, the group criticized the Malaysian government for saying there was no hope of survivors weeks after the disappearance, and for officially saying in January that everyone aboard was presumed dead.

"We do not accept this proclamation and will not give up hope until we have definitive proof of a crash and a determination of location — even if it is just one piece of the wreckage," the statement said.

In China, the family members have joined a mobile phone group chat in which they take roll-call votes on how to respond to officials, so that they can present a united front. Authorities keep a wary eye on them to discourage activism.

In Beijing, a small group of wives and mothers and sisters have turned to Buddhism, making ritual treks to local temples to pray for safe return of their loved one.

Relatives also have personal ways to cope. Nathan has been wearing a pair of diamond heirloom earrings, sleeping with her mother's photos and reading her Bible. Gomes often goes to the laundromat in the wee hours, finding solace in the spinning of the machines.

In Nanjing, Wang's grandmother is surviving on a glimmer of hope, his aunt Xiong Yunming said. "My mother is waiting for her daughter and son-in-law to return, though tears roll down her cheeks every time she raises a rice bowl," the aunt said. "In a way, no news has been good news."

The vacuum of concrete information has fed speculation. Though search officials

say satellite data indicates the plane went down in a remote stretch of the Indian Ocean, Xiong believes the plane was hijacked and taken to a U.S. military base.

"We are in an age of high technology, and I think the truth has been covered up," the retired businesswoman said.

"I think everything is possible," Wang said after listening to his aunt's analysis. "Nothing can be ruled out when nothing can be proved."

Wang traveled to Beijing the day after the plane went missing and returned home nearly two months later, agonizingly, with no answer. "Life was wretched," Wang recalled.

Realizing the fragility of life, Wang decided to have a child to keep the bloodline and to bring in some joy to disperse the gloom, although the new life that came in January brought both happiness and poignancy.

He has sought escape by spending time with his in-laws rather than his own family, and by immersing himself in his work as an information technology engineer.

"I started to work overtime often and long, hoping the work would dumb me," Wang said.

But he is not broken.

"I have been trying to adjust myself. I cannot fall, because I don't want my parents — upon their return — to see I am collapsing and languishing," he said. "I must take care of myself, take care of my family, and I must stand tall and pursue the truth as we are waiting for them to return."

For that same reason, he insists that his parents' apartment remain untouched.

"Let's decide what to do with it once they are back," said.

5-YEAR

From Page 1

DOC is not a hotel where he can decide when to check in or out.

Camacho told Cabrera he is now a convicted sex offender and he is going to prison to be punished for his crime.

Camacho ordered Cabrera to start serving his sentence immediately, but gave him a chance to say his goodbyes to family members and friends.

Upon hearing this, Cabrera's elderly mother fainted and required assistance from court marshals and other officers.

Cabrera pleaded guilty to sexual abuse of a minor in the third degree as part of a plea deal with the government. He also admitted to violation his probation. He was represented by assistant public defender Matthew Meyer. As part of the deal, all other charges were dropped.

Assistant attorney general Shannon R. Foley represented the government.

Camacho, who has been assigned to handle all Rota cases starting January 2015, informed the parties that it seems that the choice was to reluctantly accept

a lesser sex offense or the prosecution might dismiss the case completely.

According to the factual basis of the plea deal, on Oct. 4, 2014 on Rota, Cabrera, 37, had sex with the 15-year-old girl in her house. Cabrera admitted in court that he had been dating the girl for about a week before they had sex.

Cabrera claimed he did not force the girl but Camacho told him that a 15-year-old girl is not mature enough to consent to an adult activity such as sex.

Camacho also ordered Cabrera to pay a \$2,000 fine, which may be converted to community service, and \$100 court costs, upon his release from prison.

Cabrera was required to perform 200 hours of community service and pay restitution to the victim in an amount to be determined by the Office of Adult Probation for previous and any future medical or psychological treatment.

Cabrera was ordered to register as a sex offender with the CNMI Sex Offender Registry. He was required to undergo examination focusing on sex offender counseling.

Saipan Tribune learned that the same officer was also implicated in an "ice"-related case before along with then-police officer Victor Val Hocog and another police officer who was subsequently dismissed from DPS.

BSI

From Page 1

Garapan property, DPL and Best Sunshine can now concentrate on more land leases.

Tenorio said Best Sunshine will "get most of the 1.5-hectare property in Garapan," adding that DPL "has concluded" the lease agreement in Garapan and that lawyers are now finalizing the lease agreement, which will be published in the local papers in two weeks' time.

"After that, we would refer the lease to the zoning authorities for the hearing," Tenorio said.

While the Garapan property is being processed, Tenorio

said work on the leasing of a 40-hectare property in Marpi will follow.

He said Best Sunshine will be required to send a more detailed "master plan" on what it intends to do with the 40-hectare property, and will be required to coordinate again with DPL.

Tenorio said about 10 hectares of the property is fronting the beach. The official said Best Sunshine is actually asking for more, but for now, the 40-hectare property will suffice.

Aside from the 40-hectare property, a substantial land area in Naftan Point is also being eyed, Tenorio said.

Buy more private lands

The DPL's announcement of

the 40-hectare public land in Marpi for Best Sunshine drew strong reactions from lawmakers who are strongly urging Best Sunshine and the DPL to go for private lands, considering that some of the public lands eyed for lease are still occupied by residents and being used for other purposes.

The Marpi land, according to Rep. Roman Benavente (Ind-Saipan), has always been home to historical shrines.

"Best Sunshine and the DPL should strike the right balance," Benavente said. "What will happen to the local residents once these lands are leased?" He said there are some 6,000 residents of Northern Marianas descent who are in Marpi.

According to the lawmaker, Best Sunshine should buy more private lands to help more members of the community. He also questions why DPL is eyeing 40 hectares of public land for Best Sunshine, which he said is "too big."

Rep. Lorenzo I. Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan) echoed Benavente's comments, saying that Best Sunshine should lease private lands and not public lands.

He said the DPL should stop "giving away public lands."

DPL's Tenorio said he has recommended that Best Sunshine also consider buying private lands that are near or parallel to the public lands that are being considered for lease.

COP

From Page 1

Tudela's bail hearing is expected to be held today in Superior Court.

Judge orders Tang to present status of Settlement Fund

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

U.S. District Court for the NMI designated judge Frances Tydingco-Gatewood has set a hearing to get an update on the status of the Settlement Fund, which was created under the settlement agreement in Betty Johnson's class action.

Tydingco-Gatewood on Thursday ordered the appointed Settlement Fund trustee, the Guam-based Civile & Tang law firm through

its principal representative, attorney Joyce C. H. Tang, to present an update on the Settlement Fund's status.

The judge directed Tang to conduct the presentation in court on March 18, 2015, at 9am.

Tang was directed to file a status report with the court no later than March 13, 2015.

Pursuant to the settlement agreement, the court appointed Tang as trustee in September 2013. As trustee, Tang is vested with all the powers of a federal receiver.

In January 2014, assistant attorney general Reena J. Patel, counsel for the CNMI government, submitted in court a report on the status of the Commonwealth's compliance with the settlement.

Patel disclosed that the government has complied with the terms of the agreement, including the payment of \$3.75 million in annual contributions for the first quarter of fiscal year 2014.

At the end of January 2014,

the Settlement Fund had assets totaling \$106.3 million—an increase of \$1.5 million from Dec. 31, 2013's balance, according to the Settlement Fund's investment consultant, Maggie Ralbolvsky of Wilshire Consulting, during her presentation in court in March 2014 on the Fund's investment program.

In September 2013, Tydingco-Gatewood issued a final approval to a global settlement agreement in Johnson's class action against the CNMI government and the NMI Retirement Fund.

Under the settlement agreement, the CNMI government has agreed to make annual payments sufficient to enable the Settlement Fund to pay no less than 75 percent of the class

members' benefits.

With the final approval, all assets of the Retirement Fund were subsequently transferred and assigned as assets of the

Settlement Fund.

Tydingco-Gatewood approved the consent judgment against the CNMI government in favor of the Settle-

ment Fund in the amount of \$779 million, or the equivalent of the actuarial present value of benefits related to the settlement class members.



Tang

Govt renews insurance deal with Aetna

By **JOEL D. PINAROC**
joel_pinaroc@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Inos administration has renewed a deal with Aetna Global to provide health insurance policies for government employees for 2015.

The terms of the insurance deal remain the same, according to Finance Secretary Larissa Larson in an interview.

Larson, who is also the acting administrator for the NMI Retirement Fund, said the government chose to renew the insurance deal.

The Finance chief said the government is "happy with Aetna's services" but is open to other options for fiscal year 2016. "We will be entertaining [requests for proposals] for the next fiscal year," Larson said.

Larson was appointed acting administrator of the NMI Fund last October.

The Inos government in February 2014 announced the selection of Aetna Global as its insurance provider. Aetna will provide health insurance policies for active employees and retirees for the entire year.

Then-NMI Fund administrator Lillian Pangelinan said the decision to go for Aetna was reached after "intensive negotiations."

This new policy carried a 40-percent increase in premiums for members. The CNMI government pays a 50-percent share of the health insurance policy of members; the other half is paid by Fund members.

Eventually, the government announced that Aetna Global has been chosen with finality to provide the services continuously until Dec. 31, 2014.

Approximately 2,400 individuals benefit from the health coverage plan.



Larson

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Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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Thank you, Si Yu'us Ma'ase, Oloomway.

PSS commissioner pleads not guilty

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Education Commissioner Dr. Rita A. Sablan has entered a not guilty plea to traffic charges for alleged misuse of a government vehicle.

At an arraignment on Thursday, Sablan, through counsel Brien Sers Nicholas, waived the reading of the charges in the traffic citation.

Sablan, through Nicholas, also waived advisement of her constitutional rights and entered a plea of not guilty.

Superior Court Presiding Judge Robert C. Naraja set a status conference for May 14, 2015, at 1:30pm and ordered all parties to appear at the hearing.

Assistant attorney general Emily Cohen represented the government at the hearing.

According to court records, during the first hearing of the case last Feb. 19, attorney Tiberius Mocanu appeared as counsel for the Public School System but Sablan was not present. Cohen represented the government.

Naraja then set the matter for arraignment on March 5, 2015, at 9am. The Marshal Service Division was ordered to serve a copy of the order on Sablan.

Last Feb. 24 at 1:40pm, Deputy Marshal Benusto M. Lisua served Naraja's order and minute order to a staff of PSS at the

Central Office in Susupe.

Police Sgt. Anthony Macaranas issued the traffic citation to the 58-year-old Sablan last Jan. 15 in the parking lot of Twins Supermarket in Lower Navy Hill. Macaranas allegedly observed that Sablan was driving a tinted white Honda four-door sedan leased to PSS.

The officer also found out that the car has no government markings on the door and a regular license plate was used instead of a government plate, in violations of the Government Vehicle Act.

Department of Public Safety spokesman Travis Hurst said Macaranas had previously stopped a car being driven by Sablan and he exercised his discretionary authority by advising the commissioner to

bring her PSS-assigned vehicle into compliance with the law, without issuing her a traffic citation.

Hurst said upon spotting the same vehicle last February without the proper modifications as previously advised, Macaranas advised Sablan of the violations and gave her traffic citation.

DPS Commissioner James Deleon Guerrero, in a letter last January, advised all CNMI government department heads of the impending enforcement activities and gave each of the departments ample time to come into compliance with the statute.

"The Commonwealth Code 1CMC-7406 clearly outlines the rules that apply to all government vehicles, including leased vehicles," Hurst said.

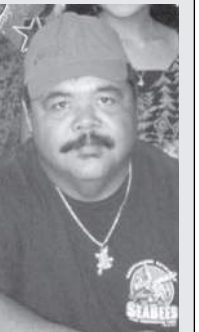
BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUTS



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy birthday Jeff Hofschneider! Enjoy your special day and may you have many more to come. Greetings come from the p.university girls, your many friends, and your loving family on Saipan and Tinian.

Belated happy birthday to a loving and caring father and husband, Joe Vince Taitano! May the Lord continue to bless you with good health. We love you from to the moon and beyond. Greetings come from Johannes (Aguida) Coleen Jr., especially from your beautiful wife Kuleta.



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AMENDED NOTICE

NOTICE OF FUNDING AVAILABILITY OF COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT FUNDS FOR PROGRAM YEAR 2015

THIS ADVERTISEMENT IS PAID FOR BY NMHC WITH CPD FUNDS.

The Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, through the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) is announcing the availability of an estimated \$1,240,460.00 in Community Planning and Development (CPD) funds available from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. NMHC anticipates receiving an estimated amount of \$868,915.00 in Community Development Block Grants (CDBG); \$309,294.00 in Home Investment Partnerships (HOME); and, \$62,251.00 in Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds for Program Year (PY) 2015.

The CDBG funds, authorized under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, may be used for a wide range of community development activities to revitalize neighborhoods, provide affordable housing, expand economic opportunities, and improve community facilities and services. However, use of these funds must meet at least one of the national objectives which include: 1) to benefit low and moderate-income families; 2) to eliminate slum or blight conditions; or 3) to meet other urgent community development needs.

The CDBG program requires a grant recipient to certify that it will minimize displacement of persons as a result of activities assisted with CDBG funds. The CNMI government does not plan on undertaking any activity which will cause displacement of person. In the event of any unforeseen displacement resulting from any CDBG funded activity, the CNMI government will comply with the requirements of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, its implementing regulation and applicable local law.

HOME funds may be used to create affordable housing through financing assistance, site acquisition or improvement, and rehabilitating existing residential dwellings as well as providing funds for new construction or purchase of a single family residential dwelling. Use of HOME funds must benefit low-income families.

ESG funds may be used to rehabilitate or convert to buildings into homeless shelters and for shelter operating expenses, supportive services and homeless prevention and rapid re-housing activities. Use of ESG funds must benefit the homeless.

Applications for the use of CPD funds are available for pick up at the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) located in Garapan, Saipan; San Jose Village, Tinian; and, Songsong Village, Rota, beginning January 06, 2015.

Applications must be submitted to the NMHC Offices in Garapan, Saipan (Saipan Residents); San Jose, Tinian (Tinian Residents); and, Songsong Village, Rota (Rota Residents) by Monday, April 06, 2015, no later than 4:30 p.m. Applications submitted after April 06, 2015, will not be accepted.

A briefing will be conducted for interested applicants and for those applicants who have picked up an application for the use of CPD funds. The briefing will address the program requirements and regulations concerning the usage of CPD funds.

The schedules for briefing are as follows: February 18, 2015, 5:00 p.m. & February 25, 2015, 5:00 p.m.

We are encouraging all non-profit, for profit, and government service providers who are providing services to people with disabilities, homeless individuals, and emergency shelter administrators and operators to attend this briefing.

For residents living on the island of Saipan, the briefing will held at the NMHC Office in Garapan; Residents living on the island of Tinian, the briefing will be held at the NMHC Office in San Jose Village; and Residents living on the island of Rota, the briefing will be held at the NMHC Office in Songsong Village.

Accommodations for disabled individuals or other non-English speaking individuals who wish to attend the briefing are available upon request by giving at least 24 hours notice prior to the meeting so that such needs can be arranged and provided. Additional inquiries, concerning the CPD program, may be directed to Ms. Zenie P. Mafnas, Deputy Corporate Director or Mr. Jacob Muna, Planning Assistant at 234-6866 or 234-7689.

/s/ Jesse S. Palacios
Corporate Director

Clothing drive for Project PROM

The Northern Marianas Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence will be hosting a clothing drive for new or gently used formal attire for Project PROM on Saturday, March 14, from 9am to 2pm.

The clothing drive will be located in the parking lot of Springs Plaza in Gualo Rai (across XO Market on Chalan Pale Arnold) and at Handbags, Etc. in Oleai.

The coalition and its sponsor, handbags, etc., will be accepting donations of new or gently used formal attire (gowns, tuxedos, shirts, slacks, dress shoes, heels, etc.), accessories (bowties, neckties,

costume jewelry, purses, etc.), and other related items like makeup, hair supplies, or accessories. Cash donations and sponsors are also welcome.

"The coalition is very grateful for the support and donations from Pena House for Project PROM," said the coalition in a statement.

Project PROM is part of the Sexual Assault Awareness Month campaign. It is a program designed to engage high school juniors and seniors in sexual violence prevention and advocacy. Project PROM also aims to provide these youth advocates with formal attire and accessories for their prom.

CNMI high school juniors and seniors interested in being part of Project PROM may submit an application to the NMCADSV Office by 5pm on Friday, April 17, 2015. Applications are available online on the Project PROM Facebook page www.facebook.com/projprom, at most schools, and at the NMCADSV office.

For more information on the clothing drive or Project PROM, contact the coalition at (670) 234-3878 or email info@endviolencenmi.org. For the latest news and updates on Project PROM, follow NMCADSV on Facebook and on Twitter @EndViolenceNMI. (NMCADSV)

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CNMI gets \$12M to complete CUC oil pipe, dump closure

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Interior Assistant Secretary for Insular Areas Esther Kia'aina released last week over \$12 million in grant funding under the Office of Insular Affairs' Capital Improvement Project program for completion of the power plant oil pipeline and Puerto Rico dump closure infrastructure projects in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

"These funds will help the CNMI address federal environmental and public health compliance issues for two important projects while improving quality of life for the people of the Northern Marianas," said Kia'aina. "Both projects

have received prior year monies and we are very pleased that this final round of grants bring both to completion."

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. received \$2.8 million in grant funding for completion of the power plant oil pipeline, a project required by the U.S. Department of Justice and the Environmental Protection Agency through U.S. District Court stipulated order 2. The SO2 required CUC and the CNMI to be in compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act.

The CNMI Department of Public Works received \$9.8 million in grant funding for completion of the Puerto Rico Dump Closure project. The

PRD, the biggest CIP project ever funded in the CNMI by the Office of Insular Affairs, has been in use since World War II and was closed in 2003 due to environmental and public health threats. EPA required an approved final closure design and construction project in compliance an EPA Administrative Order on Consent. The closure design plans include completion of a park to be more community friendly.

The Department of the Interior is responsible for coordinating federal policy with respect to the territories of American Samoa, Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana

Islands, and administering and overseeing U.S. federal assistance provided to the Freely Associated States of the Federated States of Micronesia,

the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau under the Compacts of Free Association. The Office of Insular Affairs mission is to

foster economic opportunities, promote government efficiency, and improve the quality of life for the people of the insular areas. (DOI/OIA)

Cops recover stolen vehicle, arrest suspect

In less than 30 minutes after learning about a stolen vehicle, police officers recovered the car and arrested the suspect in San Vicente on Friday afternoon.

Thomas Daniel Riner, 31, was arrested for theft of vehicle.

The green 1997 Honda Civic with license plate ACM-385 was impounded until it can be recovered by its owner, according to Department of Public Safety

spokesman Travis Hurst on Friday. He did not name the victim. Hurst said DPS Dispatch was notified on Friday at 2:16pm about a theft of vehicle incident in Kagman.

A police sergeant responded to the scene to investigate and immediately relayed the information to other officers.

Hurst said two police officers spotted the stolen car that same day and stopped it

on Isa Drive in San Vicente at 2:27pm.

Hurst said the driver, Riner, was arrested and brought to the Department of Corrections for booking.

No information was provided on how the car was stolen.

In September 2012, police arrested Riner for his alleged involvement in a string of burglaries in Kagman. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

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Opinion

Hafa Adair!

Saipan Tribune

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EDITORIAL

GOP's risk-reward calculus on legalizing pot

A recent survey has confirmed what everyone seems to think is true. Not only are younger voters way more likely than older ones to support a path to legalization for marijuana, but that trend holds true for young Republicans, too.

In the same Pew study that found 77 percent of Democrats ages 18-34 want legal pot, fully 63 percent of Republicans in the same age bracket agreed.

For the GOP, that signals a clear opportunity. But it also signals a risk that's more complex than it first appears. To be sure, the easiest and simplest way to interpret the data politically is to decide that Republicans should bet on the future by supporting legal marijuana.

Opposition to that radical move, however, is still strong among older and more traditional Republicans, conservative and otherwise. Trying to outflank the Left on legalization won't send those voters running into the arms of Democrats. But it would divide the party heading into a presidential election year—not the brightest strategy.

On the other hand, there's an even more sophisticated way to calculate the political risk facing Republicans for moving too fast on pot. Whatever the impact of legal marijuana on our morals or our health, we just don't know how future generations are going to come down on the issue once they get to experience a world where pot is fully legal. They might be perfectly thrilled. Or not.

In other words, although the present might be a great time for the GOP to support legal marijuana, the future might not be. And there's no real way to find out.

In the face of that type of risk, Republicans are well-advised to proceed with prudence at a measured pace. Ironically, although the messy, patchwork character of drug reform in America sometimes seems to undermine the rule of law, it's also helping show the virtue of conservative federalism—letting America change more as a “laboratory of democracy” than as a petri dish overseen by an all-powerful federal government.

There's a wrinkle, of course. The costs and benefits facing users of illegal pot are not distributed equally. Drug war critics are right that the relatively privileged (including Barack Obama) get a pass for violating drug laws, while the less fortunate often have their lives ruined as a result. That's why Republicans are well-served by pursuing common-sense criminal justice reforms while cautiously considering affirmative changes to our marijuana laws.

This approach requires more nuance than paint-by-numbers politics. But Republicans should trust the rewards of sound policy that it can provide.

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Oh, Axianna, don't you cry for me

The “Axianna” spelling is deliberately misspelled from the caution of colleagues who think that getting an airline's name into the article unnecessarily makes us vulnerable to a possible lawsuit. We mentioned the airline in a previous article before, not exactly in a good light, so mentioning it again might trigger the corporate office's lawyers, on a slow day, to haul our Micronesian *heine* to court.

Oh, *Susanna* is a popular U.S. folk song particularly in the U.S. South, and it was one of the songs I heard from missionaries and post-WWI teachers when I tried my mind on academic English. “*Susanna*” is close enough of a homonym and the tune does stick to the sound tracks of the brain's database, so the allusion to the song in the title is a paean on a maudlin note on a peppy tune.

I took the airline to Dalian a year ago on my return to the city where I now tie my shoelaces half of the year's cold days, Shenyang. I was asked in 2010 to lecture at *Hang Gong Hang Tian Da Xue* (this is a test on Pinyin proficiency) on economics and did, but ended up teaching oral English when I refused to teach econometrics that no one really uses nor cares about except academics and armchair economists.

We had a 14-hour layover in Incheon once before connecting to Dalian, and having taken Korea's other airline before that put me up in a hotel for the night, I expected the same service. Instead, I was ignored and brushed aside until I asked to see a supervisor who coldly informed me that I could wait out the night at the terminal lounge if I did not seek out commercial accommodations on my own. I wrote of this in this column (like anyone really cared) and vowed never to patronize the airline again.

Well, what do you know? My host brother who arranged the booking for his Saipan family trip and tour this week just sent me a copy of the travel agent's schedule in *Hanzi*, which I conveniently left unattended in my laptop's travel folder. When it was time to confirm hotel reservation on Saipan, the airline's code letters looked familiar, and sure enough, it is the one I had vowed never to patronize again.

I relented to giving it a second chance. There were four of us traveling, each entitled to two pieces of luggage each, and since I was staying a little longer than just a weeklong sojourn to work on legal papers, I brought the kitchen frying pan along! Being the non-Chinese speaker, I let the natives handle the check-in procedure, received my boarding pass for the flight to Pusan where the connecting flight to Saipan was nine hours away. I brought enough to do, expecting to be stuck at some lounge again.

The check-in girl was new on the job; four supervisors hovered over her head. She must have been rattled for when I asked if the

By **JAIME VERGARA**
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime Vergara previously taught at SVES in the CNMI. A peripatetic pedagogue, he last taught in China but makes Honolulu, Shenyang, and Saipan home. He can be reached at pinoypanda2031@aol.com.



exit door seats were still available (they were), she was at a loss on what to do to move me from my assigned seat to a new one, so I told her to forget it. I did not notice when I got my boarding pass that I only had one piece of luggage tagged to my ticket.

Getting to Pusan, and being the only four pax out of the plane who responded to the call for “Saipan-bound” passengers, the airline ground personnel who asked how many pieces of luggage we had could only locate seven tags of our claimed eight.

Tasked to make sure our luggage went to Saipan but could only locate seven tagged ones, he discovered an unclaimed bag tagged to another passenger who was honest enough to show his stub but not claim it. The agent snapped a smartphone photo of the suitcase, came up to me at the departure lounge to inquire if I had seen the bag before, and sure enough, it was one of mine. He got the travel bag and I united in cyberspace database.

For those looking for fault, the nervous check-in agent who tagged the bag to another ticket easily gets the incompetence award of the day. But the passenger terminated in Pusan; otherwise the luggage could have gone to another destination. An obvious oversight, the transfer ground crew in Pusan compensated with the extraordinary effort they went through to retrieve the mistakenly tagged piece.

Am I happy with the airline now? Well, the route is scheduled only once a week, and I was looking at the silver lining on the airline to launch a weeklong “oral English” tour to Saipan from Shenyang this winter. The weekly schedule fits our design. I still have to check out the return, though, where passengers overnight in Pusan and if this was another lounging at the terminal, a second thought is in order.

Meanwhile, picky on the inflight food service, the airline might consider adding salt and pepper, vinegar and soy sauce into their servings. The steamed beef and veggie served was rather bland!

The flights from Incheon and Pusan both unloaded plane loads at the same time. The passengers' quip was: It takes as long to get from Korea to Saipan as it does to get out of the plane to the airport sidewalk. Our next tune is, Don't cry for me, oh, Axianna!

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Beyond 2019

Lt. Gov. Ralph Torres recently told federal officials in Washington, D.C. that the CNMI would still be short of 11,000 workers even if all unemployed U.S. workers in the Commonwealth were employed.

With a \$7.1-billion Saipan casino and other “promising” investments coming in, it’s not too early to start advocating for a federal law amendment to extend the transitional Commonwealth-only worker program beyond 2019, or for employers to start applying for H visas for all their qualified employees “now” rather than wait until the 11th hour.

Other options are available. The CNMI can start aggressively hiring from the U.S. mainland, though it’s tough convincing those from the mainland to work on U.S. soil where the minimum wage is \$6.05 an hour at the moment.

The CNMI can also start aggressively recruiting from the Federated States of Micronesia, the Marshall Islands, and Palau, since their citizens can freely work, travel, and study in any U.S. state or territory.

Or the U.S. Department of the Interior could revisit its 2010 recommendation to Congress to grant a more permanent U.S. immigration status to longtime, legal foreign workers to help stabilize the workforce, among other things. Immigration is now under federal control.

Whichever option or options the CNMI and/or the United States choose would have to complement ongoing and planned efforts to train and employ available U.S. workers on the islands.

Each option has its own challenges. An H-1B or H-2B classification, for example, requires salaries much more than what many CNMI employers offer their foreign workers. Many employers are also put off by the cost of an H visa application compared to a CW permit, which is subject to a yearly renewal.

Many other valuable foreign workers also would just not qualify for an H visa so they may have to exit the CNMI after 2019.

Recruiting from the CNMI’s closest neighbors—the Freely Associated States—would require substantial training funding. Torres himself said training U.S. workers for the 200 occupations currently being filled by 14,726 non-U.S. citizen workers comes with a hefty price tag of \$4,000 to \$6,000 apiece or some \$145 million. That’s more than the CNMI’s operational budget for fiscal year 2015 alone.

That’s what’s needed “to build a substantial enough workforce to prevent the economic ramifications of losing the majority of our workforce,” Torres added.

Based on the 2014 results of a study commissioned by the Northern Marianas College, the CNMI’s education attainment level by citizenship showed that there are far more non-U.S. citizens in the workforce that possess a bachelor’s degree at 19.7 percent compared to U.S. citizens who have a bachelor’s degree at only 12.9 percent.

Torres, who represented Gov. Eloy S. Inos at the Feb. 24 plenary session of the Interagency Group on Insular Areas, traced the growth and decline of the CNMI’s workforce, as well as the steps taken to meet the challenges of current and future labor needs.

Quoting U.S. Labor Secretary Tom Perez, Torres said in his remarks that “the total number of unemployed U.S. workers in the CNMI in 2010 amounted to only about 20 percent of the 14,957 foreign workers.”

So even if all U.S. workers not in the labor force were employed, more than 11,000 jobs would still need to be filled by foreign workers. But the CW cap every year has to go down until it reaches zero by the end of 2019.

“It’s not that we don’t want to give U.S. eligible workers jobs. We just don’t have enough to support our growing needs,” Torres said, adding that the shortfall of 11,000 workers still does not include development plans “already in the works.”

Best Sunshine International’s promised \$7.1-billion exclusive

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Haidee V. Eugenio is a veteran journalist in the CNMI.



Saipan casino alone will require up to 4,000 employees in a wide range of occupations.

With last week’s amendment to the casino license agreement to open as early as June or July a “live” training facility that essentially mimics an actual casino gaming floor—much earlier than the anticipated start of any casino operation on Saipan—the need for a stable source of workers becomes even more immediate.

All these also come with an expectation that the CNMI add and improve infrastructure such as roads, water, power, and wastewater systems, the healthcare and education system and public safety, among other things.

The CNMI government, the business sector, and the general public would have to come together now for a unified approach to its labor and workforce needs four years before the end of the CW program and as multibillion investments are already in the pipeline, requiring much more workers than what the CNMI currently has.

Waiting for 2018, another gubernatorial election year, to come together and trumpet a unified approach will not do any good.

Perhaps the CNMI could assess whether it really needs all the “promising” investments, given its manpower and infrastructure limitations. As Saipan Chamber of Commerce president Alex Sablan suggested, maybe the CNMI could look into a “controlled development and managed growth” strategy.

We’ve transitioned from ‘Bond Girl’ to ‘Bond Woman’

With the casting of 50-year-old Monica Bellucci as the female lead opposite 47-year-old Daniel Craig in the forthcoming “Spectre,” we’ve officially transitioned from “Bond Girls” to “Bond Women.”

Does that mean our culture is growing up—or just aging out?

Our beloved James Bond has always been a thing of beauty and a boy forever despite the fact that Roger Moore played the role until he was approximately 117.

The women in the Bond films, from Honey Ryder to Pussy Galore, have always offered a screen for the projection of our fantasies. And while it’s not that I believe we should inevitably funnel all the aspirations, aesthetics and desires of mankind exclusively through the narrow medium of Bond movies, right now I will.

I hesitate to attribute the success or failure of every film, song, series or commercial to a sudden and seismic shift in cultural mores, and yet imaginative playtime is necessary for all of us. What we choose matters.

We like fantasy and thrillers; we like action movies and we enjoy familiar, engaging characters. James Bond might be more plastic figurine than intellectual icon but he’s nevertheless an enduring one and, oddly enough—given his license to kill—a respectable one as well.

Perhaps this is why many of us have grown up cheering 007: We’re enthralled by his gadgets, his charm, his daring and his attraction to—and for—strong women.

Bond needs no apologist; his adroit use of sexual innuendo

and his adept volleying of sarcastic rejoinders are delectable parts of his personality. He has unflinchingly been paired with powerful women.

Yes, most of them were trying to kill him—but some have actually been of help. Certainly Judi Dench, in her role as M in the last several films, has been an intrepid and unflinchingly admirable woman of the Bond world (albeit a mother figure rather than a love interest). Dench was still an enlightening and provocative choice for the role of Bond’s boss.

So what if Bond is as spiritually nuanced as a Lego figure? At least Daniel Craig is choosing an age-appropriate playmate. (I use the term playmate deliberately, so stop giggling.)

Every movie screen is presented within a certain framework, and with the casting of a woman who is on the AARP mailing list as Bond’s erotic focus, we are moving into a whole new demographic.

For one thing, “Spectre” will prove that 50-year-old Italian women are not what they used to be. Because when I say, “Picture an Italian woman over 50,” you probably see one of the following: You see Sophia Loren or you see my Aunt Clara.

Sophia Loren is to my Aunt Clara what Marcello Mastroianni is to Danny DeVito. Sharing the same ethnic background is pretty much where the similarity ends.

My friend, Anne Bagamery, a journalist who has lived in Paris for 26 years, tells me that Belucci has long been a sex symbol in Europe. Living in the woods as I do, I hadn’t heard of her. Anne says Bellucci has been compared to Loren and other bombshells for

By GINA BARRECA

The Hartford Courant

Gina Barreca is an English professor at the University of Connecticut, a feminist scholar who has written eight books, and a columnist for the Hartford Courant. She can be reached through her www.ginabarreca.com.



years. So it’s not as if Bellucci suddenly became a knockout as she got close to menopause or anything. She began life gorgeous.

It reminds me of an exchange I had with my husband about 15 years ago when we were watching a special on Tina Turner. Turner looked amazing. I asked my husband if he thought I’d look like Tina Turner at 60. He said, and I quote, “Sweetie, you didn’t look like Tina Turner at 33.”

Fair enough.

My only worry is about those invidious comparisons. What we want to do is celebrate Bellucci’s beauty—her stamina and the astonishing genes awarded to her through her ancestors—without thinking that we, too, should be able to look how she looks. Bellucci’s been quoted as saying, “Beauty without brains is boring.”

Let’s hope she’ll have lines in the script commensurate with what she brings into our line of sight—and to her 50 years of experience.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Best Sunshine discussion

I commend the leadership for holding down the casino industry. Now it is the law and we are in America. Our country is governed by law; now it is brought up to the next level. One great leader states there is no good or bad law—it has to be decided by the people. If people are happy with the law, it’s a good law. If people are not happy with the law, it is a bad law. Now is the time for the people to judge. Let it play out to the people and let them be the judge. I assume CEO Mr. Brown is continuously asking the Legislature and governor for more laws to be passed for Best Sunshine. We can understand his role, huddling with the leadership, but now it is up to the people.

From the inception of the casino law up until now, with an investment of \$7.1 billion (to be the only one to operate), is a very long time. Saipan people should already have smiling faces and sending their kids to better schools. Due to the impact of cash flow, already the entire island should feel the momentum. Seven billion dollars is a large amount of money.

Of the \$7.1 billion, the people expect at least \$1 billion should already be committed to environmental impact study and casino to

lead the economy. I suggest you commission local engineers who can design/develop a model that would sustain the impact. That would make the Marianas the best and most attractive place in Asia under the American flag. Without this in place, no tourist will ever come to the Marianas for the next 100 years because it is the filthiest place and the local population will never prosper either.

To only concentrate on the Samoan Housing area as development commitment and start the \$7.1 billion from there might not be a positive approach. The proposed hotel in Samoan Housing must connect to the sewage line. The present sewage line is inadequate as well the water system and power supply to the community. The impact study as well as the road system is definitely inadequate to withstand the number of tourists projected to visit the Marianas (we are talking Marpi to San Antonio, Forbidden Island to Topachau, Samoan Housing to Obyan).

I suggest Best Sunshine should also include a Northern Marianas descent. John S. Pangelinan would be my best choice to be the indigenous CEO and Best Sunshine CEO Mark Brown should continue in his role and lead this great development and industry.

It is important that an archaeologist is commissioned, which is just one component in respecting the culture of the Chamorro people—but to find only American G.I. and Japanese canteen, big fish

bones to prove evidence that ancestors existed is wonderful to know, but cannot go back further than Taga House on Tinian—that’s it!

Japan also has an interest to lease one of the Northern Islands to dispose of tsunami waste (more than billions of dollars). Billions of dollars is a lot of money and shall be seriously and completely managed for our children and their children’s future on Saipan. Best Sunshine should already have a model development plan including the enormity of tourists for the next 30 years.

Simple math:

■ \$1 billion for people already benefitting—Saipan should be lush and flourishing;

■ Another billion goes to environmental impact study of the entire island with model on the table;

■ Maybe \$3 billion for development plan (high end business: 10/15 star hotel if there is one)

■ \$2 billion for developer and other

The end result: the people will all be on the same page—total and complete support and not to be doing same thing over and over and expect different results. You cannot always calculate 1+1=3


Jack Atalig

Sinapalo, Rota

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian


TODAY



Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
Northeast winds 10 to 15 mph.

▲87° ▼76°


TUESDAY



Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.
Northeast winds 10 to 15 mph.

▲85° ▼75°


WEDNESDAY



Partly cloudy with isolated showers.

▲87° ▼75°


THURSDAY



Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.

▲86° ▼76°

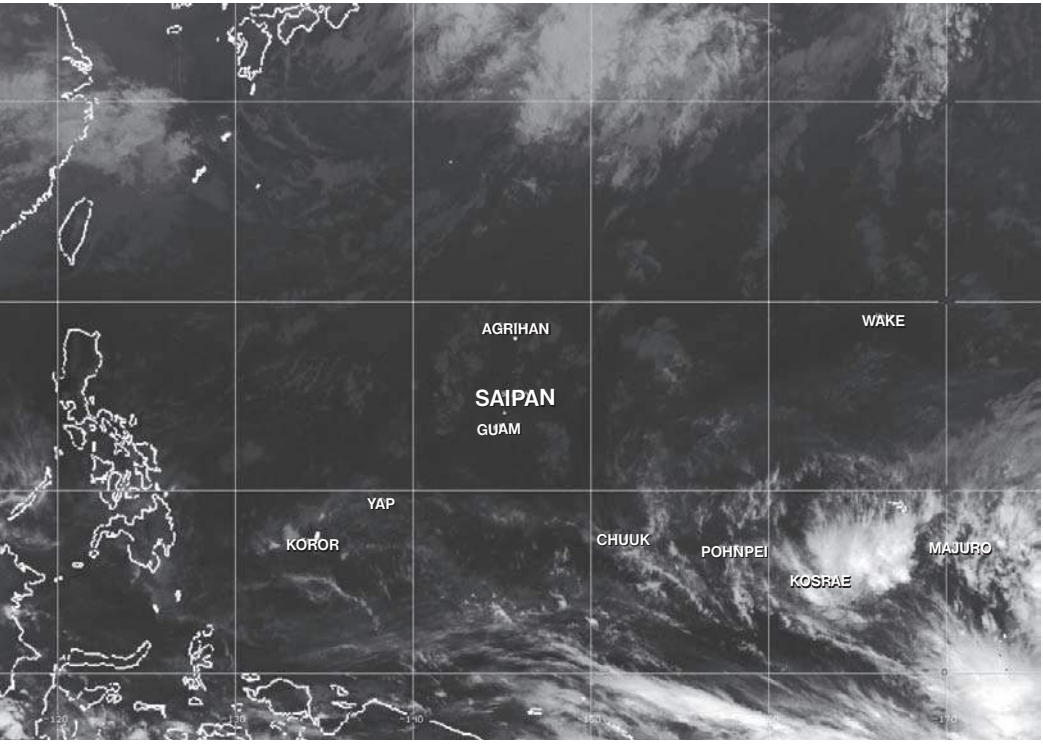
FRIDAY



Partly cloudy with isolated showers.

▲87° ▼75°

Yesterday's Satellite Image



120130140150160170


PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, SUNDAY, MARCH 8, 2015
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A near-equatorial trough stretches far eastward from 2N130E through a weak circulation centered southwest of Majuro near 4N166E to beyond 180 at 8N. Convergent surface winds north of the trough are triggering scattered showers from Yap and Koror to south of Chuuk within 100 miles of a line from 7N132E to 9N137E to 3N145E to 5N155E. Convergent winds associated with the circulation are causing scattered showers and a few thunderstorms near Kosrae between 8N and 2N from 162E to 168E and across the Marshall Islands, Butaritari and Tarawa atolls between the equator and 12N from 168E to 180.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

Micronesia			
Guam And Rota	Showers	▲83	▼76
Palau	Partly Cloudy	▲86	▼76
Yap	Partly Cloudy	▲84	▼76
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲84	▼80
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	▲86	▼79
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	▲84	▼78
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲84	▼80

Around the Globe			
Auckland	Mostly Sunny	▲79	▼62
Beijing	Sunny	▲51	▼25
Hong Kong	Partly Cloudy	▲66	▼59
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲75	▼62
London	Cloudy	▲57	▼49
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲79	▼56
Manila	Mostly Sunny	▲88	▼72
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	▲75	▼52
Miami	Sunny	▲81	▼73
New York	Partly Cloudy	▲50	▼34
Osaka	Windy	▲41	▼36
Paris	Fog	▲58	▼44
Pusan	Windy	▲43	▼26
Rome	Mostly Sunny	▲63	▼43
Salem	Sunny	▲68	▼39
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲69	▼52
Seoul	Sunny	▲36	▼23
Tokyo	Showers	▲54	▼35
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	▲59	▼40



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

Tides			
Saipan Harbor			
4:48 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.5 Feet
10:41 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet
5:16 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.4 Feet
11:10 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.7 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset		
Today	6:30 AM	6:27 PM
Tuesday	6:29 AM	6:27 PM
Wednesday	6:29 AM	6:27 PM
Thursday	6:28 AM	6:27 PM
Friday	6:27 AM	6:27 PM

Moonrise/Moonset		
Today	9:11 PM	8:29 AM
Tuesday	10:00 PM	9:10 AM
Wednesday	10:51 PM	9:53 AM
Thursday	11:43 PM	10:39 AM
Friday		11:28 AM

Note: Blank spaces indicate that a rising or a setting did not occur during that 24-hour interval.

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JANUARY 5, 2015											
DEPARTURES						ARRIVALS					
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)						GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN					
UA5070	4:15am	5:05am	Daily			UA5069	2:45am	3:35am	Daily		
UA5068	8:00am	8:50am	3			UA5071	6:40am	7:30am	3		
UA5068	8:40am	9:30am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7			UA5071	7:15am	8:05am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7		
UA5039	2:20pm	4:00pm	6, 7 via Rota			UA5039	1:00pm	1:50pm	6, 7		
UA5078	3:10pm	4:00pm	1, 5			UA5038	1:10pm	2:40pm	2, 4 via Rota		
UA5038	3:10pm	4:00pm	2, 4			UA5077	1:50pm	2:40pm	1, 5		
UA5040	6:55pm	7:45pm	1, 5			UA5041	5:35pm	6:25pm	1, 5		
UA5078	8:35pm	9:25pm	2, 3, 4, 6, 7			UA5077	7:15pm	8:05pm	2, 3, 4, 6, 7		
UA5044	10:40pm	11:30pm	1, 5			UA5043	9:20pm	10:10pm	1, 5		
SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)						GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)					
UA5039	2:20pm	2:55pm	6, 7			UA5038	1:00pm	1:35pm	2, 4		
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)						ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN					
UA5039	3:25pm	4:00pm	6, 7			UA5038	2:05pm	2:40pm	2, 4		
SAIPAN-PALAU (ROR)						PALAU (ROR)-SAIPAN					
DL287	6:05am	1:10am+1	2, 6 via NRT			DL298	4:35am	3:00pm	3, 7 via NRT		
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)						NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN					
DL287	6:05am	8:40am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6			DL298	10:25am	3:00pm	Daily		
DL297	4:20pm	7:05pm	Daily			DL288	8:55pm	1:25am+1	1, 3, 4, 5, 7		
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)						SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN					
OZ606	2:10am	6:00am	1			OZ603	9:00am	2:20pm	Daily		
OZ606	2:40am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7			7C 3402	10:10am	3:30pm	Daily		
OZ6063	3:20am	7:10am	3, 4, 6, 7			OZ605	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7		
OZ604	3:20pm	7:10pm	Daily			OZ605	8:10pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6		
7C 3401	4:30pm	8:20pm	Daily			OZ6053	8:50pm	2:10am+1	2, 3, 5, 6		
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)						BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN					
OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7			OZ607	9:00pm	1:50am+1	3, 6		
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)						SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN					
3U8648	6:00am	8:35am	1, 4, 5, 7			3U8647	10:30pm	4:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7		
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)						BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN					
MU764	1:30am	5:30am	1, 4, 5, 7			MU763	4:30pm	12:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7		
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)						GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN					
3U8646	4:30am	7:30am	2, 6			3U8645	7:55pm	3:10am+1	1, 5		
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)						MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN					
OZ606/701	2:10am	11:15am	1 via ICN			OZ704/603	12:10am	2:20pm	Daily via ICN		
OZ606/701	2:40am	11:15am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN			PR110/UA5041	7:35am	6:25pm	1, 5 via GUM		
UA5069/PR111	2:45am	4:50pm	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM			PR110/UA5077	7:35am	8:05pm	3, 6, 7 via GUM		
UA5070/191	4:15am	7:20am	2, 7 via GUM			PR110/UA5043	7:35am	10:10pm	1, 5 via GUM		
UA5070/191	4:15am	9:00am	3, 6 via GUM			DL172/288	9:40am	1:25am+1	1, 3, 4, 5, 7 via NRT		
UA5070/183	4:15am	8:45pm	2, 5 via GUM			UA190/5077	9:55am	8:05pm	2, 7 via GUM		
UA5070/183	4:15am	9:10pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM			UA190/5077	10:00am	8:05pm	3, 6 via GUM		
DL287/275	6:05am	9:35pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 6 via NRT			OZ702/605	12:30pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN		
UA5071/PR111	6:40am	4:50pm	3 via GUM			OZ702/605	12:30pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN		
UA5071/PR111	7:15am	4:50pm	1, 5, 6, 7 via GUM			UA184/5071	10:55pm	7:30am+1	3 via GUM		
UA5068/183	8:00am	9:50pm	3 via GUM			UA184/5071	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 4, 6, 7 via GUM		
UA5068/183	8:40am	9:30pm	2, 5 via GUM			UA184/5039	10:55pm	1:50pm+1	6, 7 via GUM		
UA5068/183	8:40am	9:50pm	1, 4, 6, 7 via GUM			UA184/5038	10:55pm	2:40pm+1	4 via GUM-Rota		
UA5039/183	2:20pm	9:50pm	6, 7 via Rota-GUM			UA184/5077	10:55pm	2:40pm+1	1 via GUM		
UA5038/183	3:10pm	9:30pm	2 via GUM			UA184/5041	10:55pm	6:25pm+1	1 via GUM		
UA5078/183	3:10pm	9:30pm	5 via GUM			UA184/5077	10:55pm	8:05pm+1	3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM		
UA5078/183	3:10pm	9:50pm	1 via GUM			UA184/5043	10:55pm	10:10pm+1	1 via GUM		
UA5038/183	3:10pm	9:50pm	4 via GUM			UA184/5071	10:59pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM		
OZ604/703	3:20pm	11:00pm	Daily via ICN			UA184/5038	10:59pm	2:40pm+1	2 via GUM-Rota		
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)						HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN					
OZ606/721	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN			OZ746/603	12:30am	2:20pm	Daily via ICN		
OZ606/723	2:10am	12:50pm	1 via ICN			OZ750/603	1:10am	2:20pm	Daily via ICN		
OZ606/721	2:40am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN			OZ722/605	1:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN		
OZ606/723	2:40am	12:50pm	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN			OZ724/605	2:20pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN		
UA5070/179	4:15am	10:35pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM			OZ722/605	1:15pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN		
UA5068/179	8:00am	10:35pm	3 via GUM			OZ724/605	2:20pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN		
UA5068/179	8:40am	10:35pm	1, 5, 6 via GUM			UA180/5071	10:55pm	7:30am+1	3 via		

FHB chief financial officer Al Yamada to retire

HAGÁTÑA, Guam—Al Yamada, First Hawaiian Bank vice chairman, chief financial officer, treasurer and chief administrative officer, is retiring after a 26-year career as an executive at Hawaii's largest bank.

Yamada will be succeeded by Michael Ching, managing partner of the Hawaii Office of Ernst & Young LLP, effective June 1, 2015. Yamada will

continue to serve through Ching's transition before retiring later in the year.

"Al has been a key member of our management team for a long, long time and we'll miss him," said Bob Harrison, chairman, president and CEO of First Hawaiian. "During Al's tenure as CFO of First Hawaiian, he played a central role as our bank became the

most profitable company in Hawaii and the state's largest financial institution."

"Fortunately, in Michael Ching we have found a senior finance executive with more than two decades of experience in accounting, auditing and advising banking clients in the Islands. He understands banking and he understands Hawaii. He'll be a valuable addition to First Hawaiian and we're glad to welcome him aboard," Harrison added.

Yamada has had a long career as a top banking executive on the islands. He was presi-



Ching

dent of International Savings & Loan Association, Ltd., from 1978 to 1986. Then from 1988 to 1997, he served as president and chief operating officer of Pioneer Federal Savings Bank. Pioneer was acquired by First Hawaiian in 1993 and continued to operate as a separate bank until 1997, when it was merged into First Hawaiian. At that time, Yamada moved over to First

Hawaiian, becoming CFO.

Prior to his banking career, he was a manager and audit specialist at Peat, Marwick, Mitchell & Co. in Honolulu. A native of Hilo, Yamada earned a bachelor's in business administration from the University of Hawaii at Manoa.

Ching, a native of Hawaii, earned a bachelor of science in commerce and accounting from Santa Clara University and is a CPA in Hawaii, California, Colorado and Guam.

He has worked for Ernst & Young since 1993, specializing in banking and capital markets. He was promoted to partner in 2007, becoming one of the youngest partners in Ha-

waii. As managing partner of the local office since 2013, he has been responsible for delivery of assurance, advisory and tax services.

Ching is active with community nonprofits, serving on the national and local boards of the American Diabetes Association and on the local boards of the Boy Scouts of America (Aloha Council), Chinese Chamber of Commerce and the Hawaii Theatre.

First Hawaiian Bank (www.fhb.com) with \$18.1 billion in assets is Hawaii's oldest and largest bank. The bank operates 57 branches in Hawaii, three on Guam and two on Saipan. **(FHB)**

Cannoles to retire from BoH

AGANA, GUAM—Ronald Cannoles, executive vice president and West Pacific region manager, announced that he will retire from Bank of Hawaii at the end of May after 29 years of service.

Cannoles joined the bank in 1986 as a management trainee

and has held a number of management positions throughout the organization including stints in Honolulu, Kauai, Maui, and Hawaii Island, as well as in Tonga and the Solomon Islands when the bank had extensive operations in the South Pacific.

Succeeding Cannoles will be vice president James "Hobbs" Lowson, who will become the new West Pacific region manager. In his 18 years with Bank of Hawaii, Lowson has developed extensive management experience in island communities including Pohnpei, Kosrae, Palau, American Samoa, and most recently on Saipan, where he is currently island manager. Lowson will relocate to Guam.

Rose Sumor, assistant vice president and service manager on Saipan, will become island manager. Sumor has 33 years of experience with Bank of Hawaii with widespread expertise in branch operations.

Cannoles said, "It's been a

privilege to lead and mentor such a hardworking and highly talented group of employees and managers in the West Pacific. The time has come to allow them to have every opportunity to continue to grow their careers. They are ready and I have every confidence this team will continue the outstanding Bank of Hawaii tradition of taking exceptional care of our customers."

"While I do look forward to spending more time with my family, along with golf, community activities and traveling, I'm not going anywhere right away. I intend to take the next three-plus months working with the team to help ensure the smoothest transition possible for our employees and customers," he added.

Kevin Sakamoto, executive vice president and branch division manager notes: "Ron has been a tremendous asset to our team, and we are grateful for the years of leadership and commitment he provided to the bank. I'm also appreciative, during this time of transition, of his help in the coming months. Hobbs and Rose both bring a wealth of experience to their new roles and I look forward to their future contributions." **(BoH)**

NCD Alliance to conduct new surveillance survey on NCDs

By **JAYSON CAMACHO**
jaysan_camacho@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI might very well be looking into having its first-ever surveillance survey for the prevalence rate of non-communicable disease, which has not been conducted for many years.

NCD Alliance member Becky Robles said they have started working on the survey questions.

Robles, who is also the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.'s Division of Public Health Non-Communicable Disease Bureau administrator, said she needed to finish the final draft before Friday last week.

The need for a prevalence survey in CNMI is very much needed, as NCD Alliance chair Dr. Don Hardt noted when presenting different statistics that were available from past years. He cited differing data from CHCC's Dialysis Center, Hardt Eye Clinic, Centers for Disease

Control and Prevention, and other old data that were uncovered online.

"Guam has its statistics, but numbers here in the CNMI remain missing," he said.

One other need for the survey is so that NCD issues could be lobbied with the CNMI leadership, this time with numbers indicating the need for better funding, better screening, and better awareness.

"It is important to get the surveillance survey out soon and start knocking on people's doors and hope they accommodate what we're surveying and ask family members on who has NCDs," Robles said.

In a separate interview, World Health Organization Pacific NCD & Health's Dr. Cherian Varghese said the survey is necessary for the people for the CNMI to measure the current benchmarks, upon which future data could be compared.

Attention High School Juniors & Seniors!

Celebrate Life

A Night to Remember, Not to Regret: Keep Prom Night Alcohol-Free

Don't become a statistic on prom night...

Here's how to Enter:

1. Have your school principal submit an entry form
2. Create a video commercial depicting our theme "Celebrate Life! A Night to Remember, Not to Regret."
3. Video must be no more than 3 minutes long and is to include at least 1 Prom Safety tip about underage drinking. Bonus point for adding awareness on sexual violence.
4. Be Creative & Have FUN!

Video Entries are due by
March 31, 2015, 12:00 NOON

For more information, please contact Ricky Itibus at Community Guidance Center (670)323-6560/61.

This advertisement is made possible by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration Center for Substance Abuse Prevention Strategic Prevention Framework State Incentive Grant.

A chance to win a
PAID Prom Venue &
Photographer for your
school!!

Business

Dollars can be a dirty word at banks on US-Mexico border

SAN DIEGO (AP)—The clamor to crack down on laundering drug money was loud in 2010 when Wachovia National Bank was found to have let \$110 million from Mexico be sent through its accounts. It grew two years later when HSBC Holdings PLC agreed to pay \$1.9 billion to settle violations that included letting hundreds of millions of dollars from drug cartels flow through one of the world's largest banks.

Now there is growing sentiment along the U.S.-Mexico border that vigilance has gone overboard and is hurting law-abiding businesses. American banks, wary of the potential for massive penalties, have closed Mexican accounts or saddled customers with new restrictions.

The challenge is particularly acute for Mexican companies whose customers pay dollars. In Mexico, banks refuse to take their greenbacks even after the government lifted 4-year-old caps on cash deposits of the U.S. currency in September.

Roberto Castro, chief executive of one of the largest Mexican pharmacy chains on the

U.S. border, compares the approach to chemotherapy.

"You kill the bad cells but you also kill the good cells," said Castro, whose father founded Farmacias Modernas de Tijuana SA, known as Farmacias Roma, in 1964. "They need to be more targeted in their strategies to combat money laundering."

Sens. Jeff Flake and John McCain, both Arizona Republicans, called for hearings in February, saying security concerns should be balanced against the need for access to banks in border communities. California's Imperial Valley Press editorialized that border banking may become "a niche operation, where choices become very limited."

U.S. regulators are warning banks against being indiscriminate. Two Treasury Department agencies urged them in November to avoid closing accounts of entire categories of customers and recommended a case-by-case review.

"We do not tell banks how to conduct their business," Comptroller of the Currency Thomas Curry told bankers at a conference on Monday. "We certainly do not direct them to provide



AP
In this Jan. 27, 2015 image, Roberto Castro, chief executive officer of Farmacias Roma, gestures inside one of his locations in Tijuana, Mexico.

services to some customers and not to others."

In Mexico, businesses cheered when President Enrique Peña Nieto scrapped \$14,000 monthly caps on dollar deposits in Mexican banks, saying the anti-money laundering measure hurt law-abiding companies. Relief turned to dismay when

businesses learned banks didn't want their greenbacks anyway.

Mexican Sen. Marco Antonio Blasquez said bank executives told him they worry a surge in dollar deposits would alarm U.S. regulators and banks with whom they partner.

"The Mexican banking system is scared," Blasquez told

about 200 business owners at Tijuana Chamber of Commerce offices in January.

Mexicans like Hugo Torres, whose storied Rosarito Beach Hotel is popular with Americans, have had to be creative. In 2013, Bank of America closed his account in San Diego after 25 years without explanation.

He scatters dollars among Mexican banks in small amounts.

"We have something like 10 banks," he said. "This has gone overboard."

Major U.S. banks won't say how many accounts they closed on the border. JPMorgan Chase & Co. says its U.S. branches shut fewer than 5,000 business accounts of companies based outside the country with up to \$20 million in annual sales since 2013 but wouldn't say how many were based in Mexico.

Business chambers say they fielded many complaints in the last two years. "I hear about it all the time, but it's all anecdotal," said Richard Dayoub, president of the Greater El Paso Chamber of Commerce.

The Mexican Banks Association, the country's main industry group, didn't respond to requests for comment.

Leaked letter in Greece earns government-wide scorn

ATHENS, Greece (AP)—Of all seven reform proposals submitted by Greece to eurozone finance ministers, Reform No. 3 has been most talked about since it was leaked.

It calls for "non-professional inspectors," including "students, housekeepers and even tourists" to crack down on tax evasion.

The proposal, which has earned the government wide scorn from political opponents and on the Internet, is described in an attachment to a letter sent by Finance Minister Yanis Varoufakis to Dutch counterpart Jeroen Dijsselbloem, who is also president of the Eurogroup—the gathering of the 19 eurozone finance ministers.

The inspectors are to be "hired on a strictly short-term, casual basis (no longer than two months, and without any prospect of being rehired) to pose, after some basic training, as customers, on behalf of the tax authorities, while 'wired' for sound and video." They wouldn't have the authority to challenge offenders, but their recordings would be used by tax authorities "that will use the collected evidence immediately to issue penalties and sanctions."

"The very 'news' that thousands of casual 'onlookers' are everywhere ... has the capacity to shift attitudes very quickly, spreading a sense of justice across society and engendering a new tax compliance culture,"

Varoufakis concludes optimistically in the letter that was leaked late Friday.

Besides the obvious legal reasons arising from "wired" inspectors—and Greece has pretty strong laws against the admissibility of such evidence—the whole experiment would confront a very strong "anti-snitching" culture ingrained in Greek society.

Opposition parties New Democracy and PASOK, the coalition partners in the previous government, were quick to blast the proposal as "ridiculous" and legally dubious.

"If they expect to combat tax evasion this way, they are not only dangerous, since they do not grasp the legal ramifications

of the measure, or its effectiveness, but are also ridiculous and expose the country to ridicule," New Democracy spokesman Costas Karagounis said.

The government hasn't confirmed the leaked contents of the letter, but didn't deny them either when replying to New Democracy.

"They who have repeatedly ridiculed the country to the world by serving all sorts of interests ... should better keep silent. They have already been disavowed by society. The government will do everything to eliminate tax-dodging opportunities opened by previous governments. The results will show who is ridiculous and who is not."

Iowa ag forum displays GOP rift on immigration reform

DES MOINES, Iowa (AP)—The rift over immigration in the emerging Republican presidential field opened up publicly Saturday, as several potential candidates called for enforcement of existing laws while former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush and South Carolina Sen. Lindsay Graham said those living in the U.S. illegally should have a path to legal status.

The policy difference played out at a forum focused on agricultural policy, and will likely remain a key point of debate as the race for the 2016 Republican nomination unfolds. Immigrants are an important part of the workforce in agriculture and food processing in the early caucus state and around the country.

Bush, Graham and seven other presidential prospects, including New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie and former Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee, were asked about their views on immigration and other topics by the host of the daylong public forum, Bruce Rastetter, an agribusiness magnate and GOP donor.

"Immigrants that are here need to have a path to legalized status," Bush said. "No one I know has a plan to round up illegal immigrants and send them back."

Graham, who helped craft

bipartisan immigration legislation that passed the Senate in 2013 but died in the House, said he favored letting some of the estimated 11 million immigrants living in the country illegally stay, if they met certain conditions, like learning English and paying taxes.

"We need a rational solution to the 11 million, because no Democrat is going to give us everything we want without getting something," the South Carolina Republican said. "But they'll agree with me that crooks are not welcome to stay."

Christie spoke of broadening the guest worker program as one "piece of an overall approach," but he offered no specifics.

Huckabee recommended only allowing in immigrants who say they love America, and barring those seeking government dependence. "I think we meet them at the door and say it may not be a good fit."

Even if immigrants in the U.S. illegally pay taxes, they are ineligible for most federal programs. They cannot legally get food stamps, unemployment benefits, Pell grants or federal student loans. They cannot get Medicaid, except for emergency medical services, and are ineligible for subsidies under President Barack Obama's health law.

Epic snows have meant economic woes across all industries

BOSTON (AP)—Ignore anyone who tells you snow is free.

Every workday lost during New England's winter has meant millions of dollars taken out of the regional economy.

IHS Global Insight, an economic analysis firm, estimates Massachusetts alone suffered roughly \$1 billion in lost wages and profits, as storm after storm pummeled the region, delivering more than 8 feet of snow in roughly a month.

Retailers and restaurants were among the hardest hit, as customers held off on big purchases or chose to stay at home rather than enjoy a night on the town.

A survey released this week

by Massachusetts business groups representing those and other industries reported sales dropped an average of 24 percent and payroll dropped about 7 percent among their small businesses members.

Car dealers and real estate agents complained the poorly timed storms—many of which hit on or around weekends—were disastrous to business. And with the exception of the region's ski resorts, many hotels, transportation companies and other businesses in the travel and tourism trade say they've struggled too.

"January and February are always tough months for us be-

cause people just don't want to travel," said Christopher Crean, a vice president at Peter Pan, a Springfield-based long-distance bus company. "But when you add in all the snow and cold and highway closures, that just compounds the injury. It's hard to make a profit."

Manufacturers, meanwhile, report they're just starting to catch up on nearly a month of lost productivity.

During the worst of the storms, assembly lines shut down, work orders were delayed or canceled outright and treacherous roads and iced-over rail lines hindered transport of finished products.

"Not only were we losing sales on the front end of the storms, now we're paying a lot more on the back end to get product out," said Michael Tamasi, CEO of AccuRounds, a Massachusetts maker of shafts, valves and other parts for medical, defense, aerospace and information technology companies. "We've been adding hours, stretching out the work day, working on Saturdays, whatever we need to do."

Business leaders say the storms, if anything, laid bare the shortcomings of two critical pieces of the regional economy: Greater Boston's road and transit systems.

Nation

Selma civil rights milestone marked by first black president

SELMA, Ala. (AP)—America's racial history "still casts its long shadow upon us," President Barack Obama said Saturday as he stood in solidarity and remembrance with civil rights activists whose beatings by police a half-century ago galvanized much of the nation against racial oppression and hastened passage of historic voting rights for minorities. Tens of thousands of people joined to commemorate the "Bloody Sunday" march of 1965 and take stock of the struggle for equality.

Under a bright sun, the first

black U.S. president praised the figures of a civil rights era that he was too young to know but that helped him break the ultimate racial barrier in political history with his ascension to the highest office. He called them "warriors of justice" who pushed America closer to a more perfect union.

"So much of our turbulent history—the stain of slavery and anguish of civil war, the yoke of segregation and tyranny of Jim Crow, the death of four little girls in Birmingham, and the dream of a Baptist preach-

er—met on this bridge," Obama told the crowd before taking a symbolic walk across part of the Edmund Pettus Bridge, where the 1965 march erupted into police violence.

"It was not a clash of armies, but a clash of wills, a contest to determine the meaning of America," Obama said. He was 3 years old at the time of the march.

A veteran of that clash, Rep. John Lewis, who was brought down by police truncheons that day in 1965 and suffered a skull fracture, exhorted the crowd to press on with the

AP
President Barack Obama speaks near the Edmund Pettus Bridge, Saturday, March 7, 2015, in Selma, Ala. This weekend marks the 50th anniversary of "Bloody Sunday," a civil rights march in which protestors were beaten, trampled and tear-gassed by police at the Edmund Pettus Bridge, in Selma.



work of racial justice.

"Get out there and push and pull until we redeem the soul of America," Lewis said. He was the youngest and is the last survivor of the Big Six civil rights activists, a group led by the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. that had the greatest impact on the movement.

In the crowd stood Madeline McCloud of Gainesville, Florida, who traveled overnight with a group of NAACP members from central Florida and marched in Georgia for civil rights back in the day. "For me this could be the end of the journey since I'm 72," she said. "I'm stepping back into the history we made." Also in attendance was Peggy Wallace Kennedy, a daughter of the late George Wallace, the Alabama governor who once vowed "segregation forever."

Beyond Clinton, many 2016 hopefuls have used private email

ATLANTA (AP)—Hillary Rodham Clinton continues to catch heat for her extensive use of a private email account to conduct official business while she was secretary of state. But the Democrats' 2016 presidential favorite isn't the only White House hopeful whose transparency has come into question.

Several current and former governors who are considering

a presidential run have found ways to delay or prevent public scrutiny of their communications while in office. That includes Republicans who have criticized their potential Democratic rival.

"Hillary Clinton's potential evasion of laws is something she should answer questions about," said Kirsten Kukowski, spokeswoman for Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker, who once used a private

email system as executive of Milwaukee County.

Former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush and former Texas Gov. Rick Perry, both Republicans, also criticized Clinton, even though they each used private emails when they held the post as their state's top executive.

A "patchwork" of federal and state public information laws was written "for the era of paper records" that now "aren't serving us well" in the digital age, said Charles Davis, journalism and communications dean at the University of Georgia and an expert on public information laws.

"This is the bedeviling thing: It's good-government law that rests on the honesty and transparency of public officials," he said. "If a government official sets out on a mission to lie to the public or withhold from the public by using private email or some other means, there's not much we can do about it."

ACROSS THE NATION

Fatal police shooting of unarmed 19-year-old prompts protest

MADISON, Wis. (AP)—The fatal shooting of an unarmed black 19-year-old by a white police officer, who authorities say fired after he was assaulted, prompted protesters Saturday to take to the college town's streets with chants of "Black Lives Matter." The city's police chief said he understood the anger, assuring demonstrators his department would defend their rights as he implored the community to act with restraint. Tony Robinson died Friday night after being shot in his apartment following a confrontation with Officer Matt Kenny, who had forced his way inside after hearing a disturbance while responding to a call, authorities and neighbors said. Madison Police Chief Mike Koval said Kenny was injured, but didn't provide details. It wasn't clear whether Robinson, who died at a hospital, was alone.

Official: Teacher secretly taped kindergartners in bathroom

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP)—An Ohio teacher secretly recorded his kindergarten students using a tiny spy camera hung inside his classroom's bathroom, prosecutors said Saturday. Dozens of videos of students were found on the computer of Elliot Gornall, 32, a former teacher at the elementary school in Loudonville who resigned last year after being charged in another case, Ashland County Prosecutor Chris Tunnell said. "The thought that a previously trusted kindergarten teacher would take advantage of young children in this way is horrifying," Tunnell said in a statement announcing the charges. Gornall faces 25 felony charges: 23 counts of illegal use of a minor in nudity-oriented material or performance and two counts of attempting the same crime. Twenty-five kindergartners were recorded, Tunnell said.

9 hurt in garage roof collapse at California college party

SAN LUIS OBISPO, Calif. (AP)—Nine people were injured after a garage roof collapsed Saturday during an early St. Patrick's Day party at California Polytechnic State University in San Luis Obispo that spiraled out of control and caught both city and university officials off-guard. Several thousand students, most wearing green, poured into the neighborhood near the university Friday night and were still partying as the sun rose on Saturday. That's about the time when the roof with about three dozen people standing on it collapsed as screams and gasps could be heard from throughout the party. In the most serious injury, a person's thigh was impaled by a piece of debris early Saturday, the city said in a statement. Eight others were treated for cuts and bruises. None of the injuries are life-threatening.

TINIAN CASINO GAMING CONTROL COMMISSION

Municipality of Tinian and Aguiguan
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9910(a), the Tinian Casino Gaming Control Commission (TCGCC) hereby gives notice that it will hold its Regular Meeting on Thursday, March 12, 2015, at 9:00 a.m. at the TCGCC Conference Room.

AGENDA

- I. PRELIMINARY**
 - a. Call to Order
 - b. Roll Call
 - c. Adoption of Agenda
 - d. Adoption of Minutes
- II. PUBLIC COMMENTS¹**
- III. REPORTS**
 - a. Chair's Report
 - b. Executive Director's Report
- IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**
 - a. Management of Tinian Dynasty Hotel & Casino
- V. NEW BUSINESS**
 - a. Ratification of Table Movement Requests
 - b. Licensing Matters
 1. Casino Key Employee License Applications
 2. Casino Employee License Applications
 3. Hotel Registrations
 4. Casino Service Industry License Applications
 - a. Registrations
 - b. Exemptions
- VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION²**
- VII. MISCELLANEOUS/ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**
- VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

¹ Public comments are limited to 30 minutes and each remark is limited to 3 minutes each. Everyone is welcomed to submit written comments.

² Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9912, the Commission may vote to meet in executive session at any time.

**Procurement And Supply
CNMI Government**

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
RFP NO.: RFP15-BECQ/DCRM-055
 SUBMISSION: MARCH 26, 2015 TIME: 10:00 A.M.
**"TO PERFORM HUMAN RESOURCES DESK AUDITS
FOR THE DIVISION OF COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT"**

The Scope of Work will be available at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base Drive, Saipan during regular working hours.

A pre-proposal meeting will be conducted on March 12, 2015 at 10:00 a.m., local time at the Bureau of Environmental Quality Office Conference Room. Questions for this project must be submitted in writing no later than the close of business, March, 16, 2015 to Ms. Fran Castro, DCRM Director by facsimile to (670) 664-8318 or by email to francastro@crm.gov.mp.

The government reserves the right to reject any and all proposals and to waive any imperfection in a proposal if in the best interest of the CNMI. All proposals shall become the property of the CNMI government.

/s/ FRANK M. RABULIMAN
Administrator of BECQ
/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director, P&S



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
 PO Box 502149; Saipan, MP 96950
 Tel: (670) 234-6245/6293/7145/7146 Fax: (670) 235-7147



NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING

ON AN APPLICATION FOR A QUALIFYING CERTIFICATE AUTHORIZING THE ABATEMENT AND REBATE OF CERTAIN CNMI TAXES

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that:

A. Public hearing. In accordance with the Investment Incentive Act of 2000, as amended, and pursuant to the rule-making procedures of the Administrative Procedures Act, the Commonwealth Development Authority (CDA) will conduct a public hearing at the Governor Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center, Susupe, Saipan, on Tuesday, March 17, 2015, at 10:00 a.m. on the application of Saipan International Real Estate Developer Corp. Ltd. dba Ocean Vista Resort, Applicant, for a Qualifying Certificate, which request is for tax relief by way of abatement and rebate of CNMI taxes in consideration of Applicant's proposed resort hotel, all pursuant to the Investment Incentive Act of 2000, as amended, and as set out in the Applicant's application for a Qualifying Certificate.

B. Nature of hearing. This hearing shall be open to the public. Oral or written statements will be received from anyone wishing to testify thereat, which statement will be incorporated into the records of the hearing.

C. Further information. For further information, please contact CDA at the above telephone numbers or visit its offices at the CDA Building in San Jose, Saipan.

/s/ Manuel A. Sablan
Executive Director

Asia

Of a plane still missing, and a planet still vast

By TED ANTHONY
ASSOCIATED PRESS

BANGKOK (AP)—The towering Danish ship *Kobenhavn* set sail from Argentina one December day, bound for Australia with five dozen souls aboard. Eight days later, as it traversed the South Atlantic, it radioed a nearby ship. All seemed well.

That was Dec. 22, 1928. The vessel was never heard from again. There were reports of a “phantom ship” spotted through the haze, but searches of the icy waters turned up nothing. A year passed.

“Never in the history of shipping has a missing vessel been searched for more thoroughly,” Associated Press correspondent Alex Gerfalk wrote then. “Science has exhausted its resources in an attempt to find a plausible explanation for the complete disappearance of the largest sailing vessel in the world.”

And so it goes. For centuries, human beings have clambered aboard vessels and headed for the horizon, unsure if they would return. Sometimes they didn’t. Sometimes search parties were dispatched to seek survivors, bodies, answers. Sometimes they were not.

Today, the world is a year into the mystifying disappearance of the enormous jetliner that was Malaysia Airlines Flight 370 without any sort of resolution. Searches of vast swaths of the Indian Ocean continue, pegged to a cocktail of science and optimism that we hope will provide some answers for those families left behind—and for the rest of us.

And we are a year into what is effectively an elaborate missing-persons case, multiplied by 239. With all that we’ve learned, it remains unique under the sun, enduring in the public consciousness, eating up millions of dollars in search efforts and still generating countless what-if scenarios.

“There is really no precedent to this,” says Geoffrey Thomas, the Australia-based editor-in-chief and managing director of *Airlineratings.com*.

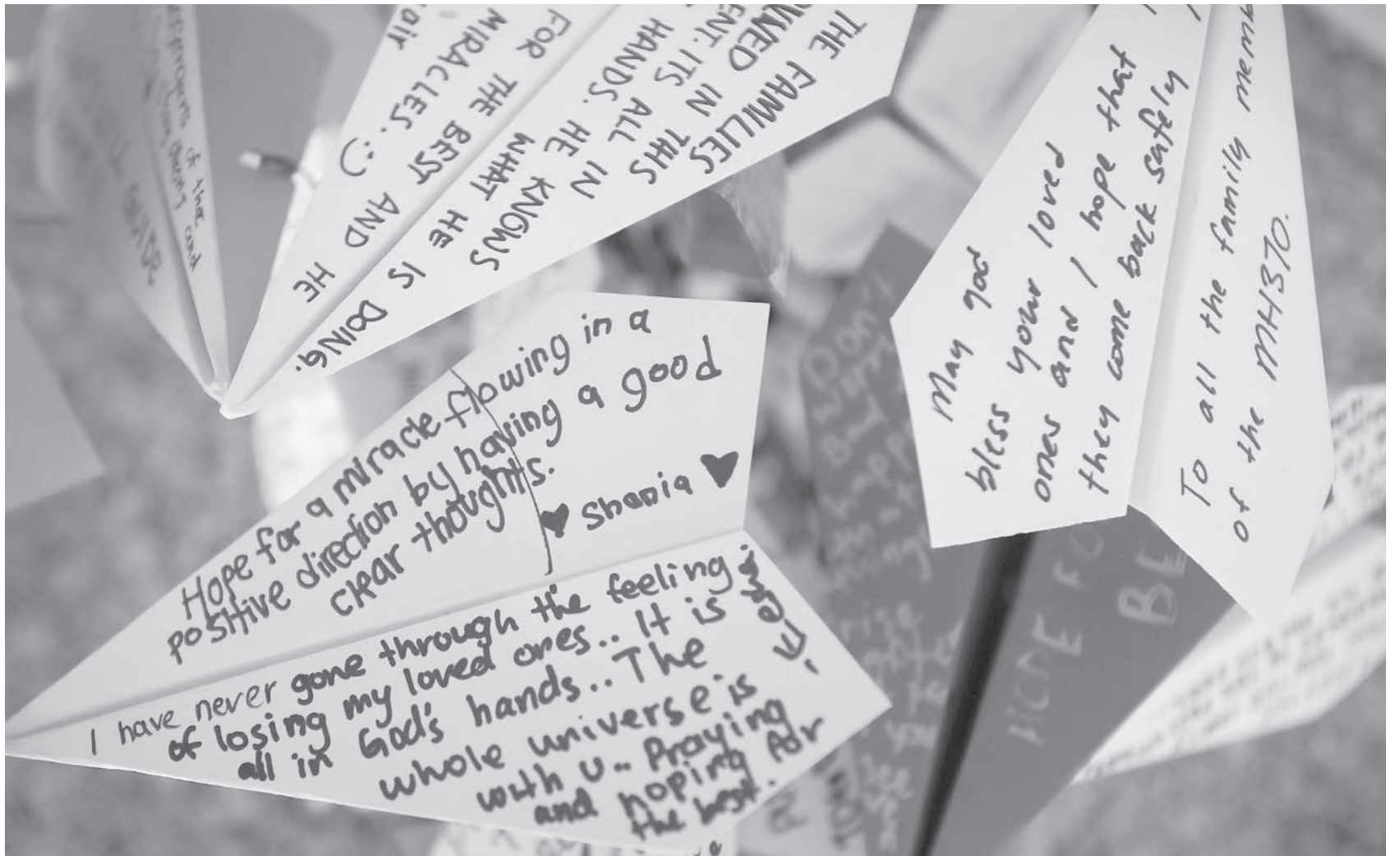
So aside from the aviation particulars, what makes the tale of this particular Boeing 777-200ER so different from the countless vessels that have vanished throughout history and left behind only questions and confused families? Here are a few possibilities:

WE’RE CONDITIONED TO EXPECT ENDINGS.

Part of it is the expectations that human beings have about how stories end, fed by a media that thrives on tidy resolutions. That’s relatively new.

Thanks to a century of storylines in movies, TV shows, advertisements, video games and social-media eruptions, human beings not only expect an ending but demand it. Remember what happened when “The Sopranos” concluded its run on our television screens by simply cutting to black? Legions of angry viewers felt cheated of their ending.

“We expect a resolution soon. And a year is not soon,” says Emily Godbey, an associate professor at Iowa State University who studies and writes about how humans respond to disasters.



In this March 15, 2014, photo, paper planes with personalized messages for the missing on Malaysia Airlines Flight 370, are placed at the viewing gallery of Kuala Lumpur International Airport in Sepang, Malaysia. AP

THE TECHNOLOGY OF TRANSPORTATION.

Items from the modern cabinet of wonders, such as GPS and radar and mobile-phone technology and flight-tracker apps that let you follow planes from your pocket, hand us an illusory sense of control—a notion that we have, through gadgetry, rendered the world finite. While human abilities have certainly increased since the days of the *Kobenhavn*, there are still—and perhaps always will be—places to disappear.

The patch of ocean where efforts to find Flight 370 are focused is based, in part, on data from the British satellite company Inmarsat. The data may be accurate, but the sea is a very large place.

The moral, so far: Even the best tech can’t always make the uncertain and the unknown into something definitive.

THE ABILITY OF THE RELATIVES TO BE HEARD.

The mysteries of yesteryear were not accompanied by a global amplification system that beamed the anguish of the missing passengers’ loved ones into millions of living rooms and onto millions more mobile devices. In Flight 370’s case, a core organization of families has made it their business to keep attention from fading. They are, understandably, resisting the transition from news event into eternal mystery.

“How can they not find such a big airplane?” Song Chunjie, whose sister was on the plane, said in China shortly after the debris of another aircraft, AirAsia Flight 8501, was spotted in Indonesia’s Java Sea in early January. “Knowing the bad news is painful, but it’s even more painful for us to live with uncertainty and have to wait to

know what actually happened.”

There’s a potential echo chamber there, too, that goes something like this: Relatives want to be heard. The media obliges because of intense interest. The families are heartened by the interest, and the cycle continues.

NO GROUND ZERO.

Most tragedies happen somewhere: the spot where the towers fell on 9/11, the beaches where the waves came ashore during the Asian tsunami, the sunflower fields where the pieces of Malaysia Airlines Flight 17 fell after it was blasted out of the Ukrainian sky last summer.

Places focus grief, and—aside from a temporary memorial that went up in the Kuala Lumpur airport in the days after Flight 370 vanished—there has been no place for a common emotional outpouring.

“This is an event which has been rendered invisible,” says Godbey, the professor. “We are in an age where we expect to see the aftermath. We expect to see the wreckage. We expect to have some sort of visual perceptions of loss. There just is nothing to grab onto.”

Two other major air disasters that shook Asia in 2014—Flight 17 in July and AirAsia 8501 in late December—at least provided resolution amid the horror. Wreckage was found. Salvage took place. The process that humans rely upon in such circumstances moved forward.

Just a few days ago, relatives of Flight 17’s victims gathered in hangars on a Dutch air base to view twisted and charred wreckage from the plane where their loved ones were lost. A pitiful place to mourn, but a place nonetheless. Said one relative:

“It brings it very close to home.”

MUCH RIDES ON SOLVING THIS MYSTERY.

When a ship sank at sea, it didn’t automatically imply that other ships were at risk. But when a plane crashes, there is enormous public and economic interest in figuring out what went wrong. Planes, after all, are a pivotal player in everything from business travel to tourism to national pride.

Thus, everyone from Malaysia Airlines to the industry at large to various governments and agencies responsible for air safety is intensely committed to ensuring the disappearance won’t remain an enigma forever.

“The aviation industry needs to find this plane to determine what happened and why,” Thomas, the airline-safety expert, said in an email interview. “For Malaysia Airlines,” he said, “this disaster will not go away until the plane is found.”

WHAT WE KNOW ABOUT GRIEF TODAY.

Not only is grief viewed as something specific, with equally specific ways to treat it, but the number of people affected by something—the constituency of grief—can ripple far beyond the nucleus of relatives. In many cases that involve devastating, high-profile events, grief in its various intensities becomes a community experience.

With Flight 370, you can make a case that the constituency of grief is a pretty large chunk of humanity. So policy decisions made around the search—should it continue, and for how long?—extend beyond the realm of policy itself.

“So much of the world’s been touched by this event in some way,”

says Alisa Hathaway, a trauma expert at the University of Rochester’s Mt. Hope Family Center. Searchers, policymakers, aviation experts: “All of those layers of people are affected by this process and all of the emotion that goes along with it.”

Particularly when stories about trauma are discussed on every TV channel and shared on every social media platform, uncounted millions are exposed to the grief of a few. That can have an effect when it comes to moving on. “How do you help people get on with their lives?” says Charles F. Reynolds, a University of Pittsburgh psychiatrist who focuses on an emerging field called “complicated grief.”

It’s all complicated, not just the grief. Perhaps the most complex question of all still hangs over everything, sometimes spoken, sometimes silent, always double-edged: How can the people responsible for the search ever decide to end it—and how do they justify continuing indefinitely, given the costs and commitments?

That suggests the long-term challenge of this slow-motion tragedy. Even in an age of possibility that has stitched us together mechanically and virtually, our planet remains a forbidding place—always ready to upend lives, swallow airplanes whole and create enduring mysteries. And humanity’s various outposts, more entangled than ever before, have to figure out, together, how to navigate it all.

A year after its final “Good night, Malaysian three-seven-zero,” that’s precisely what Flight 370 is shouting at us in silence from wherever on Earth it might possibly be, saying the same thing that the *Kobenhavn* did nine decades ago: It is, most definitively, not a small world after all.

World

2 Nemtsov suspects detained in Russia, prompting skepticism

MOSCOW (AP)—Russia's security service head said Saturday that two suspects in the killing of leading opposition figure Boris Nemtsov have been detained. Russian news reports later cited an official as saying one of them had served with police troops in Chechnya.

The short and vague announcement of the detentions by Federal Security Service director Alexander Bortnikov prompted only skepticism and weak satisfaction from his comrades.

Bortnikov, in comments shown on state television, said the two suspects were from Russia's North Caucasus region, but gave no details other than their names.

He said they were "suspected of carrying out this crime," but it wasn't clear if either of the suspects was believed to have fired the shots that killed Nemtsov as he and a companion walked over a bridge near the Kremlin on Feb. 27. No charges were immediately announced, but the two were expected appear in a Moscow court on Sunday.

Bortnikov didn't say where the detentions took place, how they were conducted or what led agents to the suspects.



AP
Mourners following the Russian tradition of memorialising a person nine days after a death lay flowers and votive candles at the place where Boris Nemtsov, a charismatic Russian opposition leader and sharp critic of President Vladimir Putin, was gunned down on Friday, Feb. 27, 2015 near the Kremlin, in Moscow, on Saturday, March 7, 2015.

However, the state news agencies Tass and RIA Novosti said they were detained in Ingushetia, a republic bordering Chechnya, citing Ingush Security Council chief Albert Barakhoev.

One of them, Zaur Dadaev, served in a battalion of Interior Ministry troops in Chechnya, Barakhoev was

quoted as saying.

He said the other, Anzor Gubashev, had worked in a private security company in Moscow, according to the reports.

Barakhoev also was quoted by RIA Novosti as saying two others were seized at the same time as the suspects. But there has been no official announce-

ment of their detention. Dadaev's mother, Aimani, was quoted by the Interfax news agency as saying the two others were her nephews.

Nemtsov's killing shocked Russia's already beleaguered and marginalized opposition supporters. Suspicion in the opposition is high that the kill-

ing was ordered by the Kremlin in retaliation for Nemtsov's adamant criticism of President Vladimir Putin. The 55-year-old Nemtsov was working on a report about Russian military involvement in the eastern Ukraine conflict.

But Russia's top investigative body said it was investigating several possible motives, including that he was killed in an attempt to smear Putin's image. It also said it was looking into possible connections to Islamic extremism and Nemtsov's personal life.

Chechnya, where Dadaev reportedly worked, was wracked by two wars over the past 20 years between Russian forces and separatists increasingly allied with fundamentalist Islam. Although the insurgency died down in Chechnya several years ago, attacks attributed to Islamic militants sporadically occur in nearby regions.

IS destroying another ancient archaeological site in Iraq

BAGHDAD (AP)—Islamic State militants continued their campaign targeting cultural heritage sites in territories they control in northern Iraq, looting and damaging the ancient city of Hatra just one day after bulldozing the historic city of Nimrud, according to Iraqi government officials and local residents. The destruction in Hatra comes as the militant Islamic group fended off an Iraqi army offensive in Saddam Hussein's hometown and fought pitched battles in eastern Syria in an area populated by predominantly Christian villages.

Iraqi officials in the northern city of Mosul said Saturday that Islamic State militants have begun demolishing Hatra, a move UNESCO described as "cultural cleansing."

An official with the ministry of tourism and antiquities' archaeological division in Mosul told The Associated Press that multiple residents living near Hatra heard two large explosions Saturday morning, then reported seeing bulldozers begin demolishing the site. He spoke anonymously for fear of reprisal.

Saeed Mamuzini, a Kurdish

official from Mosul, told the AP that the militants had begun carrying away artifacts from Hatra as early as Thursday and on Saturday, began to destroy the 2,000-year-old city.

Hatra, located 110 kilometers (68 miles) southwest of the city of Mosul, was a large fortified city during the Parthian Empire and capital of the first Arab kingdom. A UNESCO world heritage site, Hatra is said to have withstood invasions by the Romans in A.D. 116 and 198 thanks to its high, thick walls reinforced by towers. The ancient trading center spanned 6

kilometers (4 miles) in circumference and was supported by more than 160 towers. At its heart are a series of temples with a grand temple at the center—a structure supported by columns that once rose to 100 feet.

"The destruction of Hatra marks a turning point in the appalling strategy of cultural cleansing underway in Iraq," said Irina Bokova, the director-general of UNESCO, and Abdulaziz Othman Altwajri, director general of the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO) in a joint statement.

Nigeria's Boko Haram pledges allegiance to Islamic State

MAIDUGURI, Nigeria (AP)—Nigeria's home-grown Boko Haram group, newly weakened by a multinational force that has dislodged it from a score of northeastern towns, reportedly pledged formal allegiance to the Islamic State group.

The pledge to IS came in an Arabic audio message with English subtitles alleged to have come from Boko Haram leader Abubakar Shekau and posted Saturday on Twitter, according to the SITE Intelligence monitoring service.

"We announce our allegiance to the Caliph of the Muslims ... and will hear and obey in times of difficulty and prosperity, in

hardship and ease, and to endure being discriminated against, and not to dispute about rule with those in power, except in case of evident infidelity regarding that which there is a proof from Allah," said the message. IS leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi has declared himself the caliph.

Earlier, the Nigerian extremist group was blamed for four suicide bomb attacks that police said killed at least 54 people and wounded 143 in the northeast city of Maiduguri, the capital of Borno state and birthplace of Boko Haram.

The blasts occurred over four hours in locations from a busy fish market to a crowded bus station, said Police Commis-

sioner Clement Adoda.

A fifth explosion from a car bomb at a military checkpoint 50 miles (75 kilometers) outside the city wounded a soldier and two members of a civilian self-defense unit. The bomber apparently wanted to reach Maiduguri, said a police officer at the scene who spoke on condition of anonymity because he is not allowed to speak to the press.

In the deadliest blast, 18 people died when a suicide bomber blew himself up in a tricycle taxi at the entrance to the bustling Baga fish market, police said.

"I saw many dead bodies lying on the ground, many dead, and several others badly injured," said fish seller Idi Idrisa.

The Boko Haram pledge to IS comes as the Nigerian militants reportedly are massing in the northeastern town of Gwoza, considered their headquarters, for a showdown with the Chad-led multinational force.

Though there was no way to independently verify the message, it comes weeks after Boko Haram's new Twitter account broadcast that the group's Shura council was considering whether to swear formal allegiance to IS.

The Twitter account, increasingly slick and more frequent video messages from Boko Haram, and a new media arm all are considered signs that the group is being helped by IS propagandists.

WORLD BRIEFS

5 dead, 2 expats, in shooting at restaurant in Mali capital

BAMAKO, Mali (AP)—A masked gunman sprayed bullets in a restaurant popular with foreigners in Mali's capital early Saturday, killing five people including a French person and a Belgian national, officials and witnesses said. Al Mourabitoun, or The Sentinels, a northern Mali jihadist group allied with al-Qaida, claimed responsibility for the attack, according to the Mauritanian news website Al-Akhbar. It often receives messages from Malian extremists. Nine people were wounded including two experts at the U.N. mission, said the U.N. stabilization mission in Mali in a statement. The two are Swiss soldiers and are being flown to Senegal for treatment, said the Swiss Defense Ministry. Witness Ibrahim Coulibaly described the attack. "I saw a masked person with a great weapon like a machine gun go up the stairs to the bar and at first I thought it was a joke, but a few seconds later, I heard a first shot. People started shouting and then came a burst of gunfire. It was then that I realized it was serious. I hid," said Coulibaly.

9 foreigners unaccounted for after IS attack on oil field

VIENNA (AP)—Fighters from the Islamic State group attacked an oil field in Libya, killing several members of the security detail at the site and nine foreign workers are missing, European officials said Saturday. Austrian Foreign Ministry spokesman Martin Weiss said the Friday afternoon attack occurred at the al-Ghani oil field, south of Sirte. Security teams retook the site, but nine foreign workers are unaccounted for, including one Austrian, one Czech and seven non-EU citizens. No demands have been made by any group or individual for their return. The Czech Foreign Ministry confirmed that a Czech national was missing after the attack. Ministry spokeswoman Michaela Lagronova said the ministry is in contact with the family of the missing person and is cooperating with Austria.

Rebel pageant: Ukrainian fighters trade in boots for heels

DONETSK, Ukraine (AP)—Trading in their combat boots and fatigues for high heels and ball gowns, female rebel fighters who normally fight Ukrainian soldiers took Saturday off to take part in a beauty pageant. The event was organized by self-proclaimed authorities in the rebel-held city of Donetsk on the eve of International Women's Day, which is widely celebrated throughout the former Soviet Union. Women from three main rebel battalions showed off their dinner dresses before they changed back to fatigues to receive prizes and roses. Most of the women were local residents who followed their husbands or boyfriends to the front while one was a Russian, from the Russian western city of Bryansk. Some of the women used to work in pre-schools, while others were in private business.

Health & Fitness

How much sugar is in that? 7 foods with added sugar

NEW YORK (AP)—Health officials say people should eat less sugar. But that's easier said than done.

Anyone who has tried cutting down on sugar knows to avoid cookies, sodas and candy. But sugar can be hidden in lots of other common packaged foods.

The World Health Organization finalized guidelines Wednesday saying people should keep intake of added sugars to just 5 to 10 percent of overall calories, which translates to about 25 to 50 grams of sugar a day for most people. The guidelines don't apply to naturally occurring sugars in fruits, vegetables and milk, since they come with essential nutrients.

In the U.S., adults get about 11 to 15 percent of their calories from sugar; the figure for children tops that at about 16 percent. By comparison, sugar intakes range in Europe from about 7 percent in Hungary to nearly 25 percent in Portugal.

But many people aren't aware of how much sugar they're eating every day. In fact, that's one reason the U.S. Food and Drug Administration is proposing the first overhaul of nutrition labels in two decades. In addition

to highlighting the number of calories per serving in a bigger, bolder font, the new proposed labels would also for the first time list sugars that are added by manufacturers.

In the meantime, though, companies don't currently disclose how much of the sugar listed in the nutrition panels of their products are from added sugars rather than naturally occurring ones.

Here are seven examples of foods that might have added sugar or another sweetener like high-fructose corn syrup as an ingredient:

■ **SALAD DRESSING:** Picking a salad over a ham sandwich seems like a virtuous choice. But the amount of sugar it comes with can vary depending on the dressing you put on top of it. Wish-Bone's Deluxe French salad dressing, for instance, lists 4 grams (about 1 teaspoon) of sugar per serving (2 tablespoons).

■ **SOUP:** A cup of soup of soup is comforting thought, but even savory varieties can have sugar. A can of Progresso's Rich & Hearty Beef Pot Roast has 4 grams (about 1 teaspoon) of sugar per serving, with a can



Foods that might have added sugar or another sweetener like high-fructose corn syrup as an ingredient are pictured Wednesday, March 4, 2015, in New York. AP

containing two servings.

■ **YOGURT:** Another seemingly healthful choice that can come with lots of sugar. Some

of the sugar is naturally occurring from the dairy, but companies add sweeteners too. A container of Chobani's 0% fat Greek yogurt in black cherry flavor lists 17 grams (about 4 teaspoons) of sugar.

■ **BREAD:** That toast you're about to smother with jam might've already been a little sweetened. A store brand of enriched white bread at the convenience store chain Duane Reade listed 2 grams (about half a teaspoon) of sug-

ar for per serving (2 slices)

■ **PEANUT BUTTER:** It depends on the variety you pick, but peanut butter can come with added sugar too. Skippy's Super Chunk variety lists 7 grams (almost 2 teaspoons) of sugar per serving (2 tablespoons).

■ **CEREAL:** Most people know that cereal has sugar, especially the varieties for kids. In some cases, you might be surprised that there isn't much difference between options. Special K with Red Ber-

ries, for instance, has 9 grams (more than 2 teaspoons) per serving (1 cup), while Frosted Flakes has 10 grams (more than 2 teaspoons) of sugar per serving (3/4 cup).

■ **FROZEN MEALS:** In case it wasn't clear by now, just because it's not dessert doesn't mean it doesn't have added sugar. California Kitchen's BBQ Chicken microwavable pizza has 7 grams (almost 2 teaspoons) of sugar in a single-serving pie.

FDA study finds little evidence of antibiotics in milk

WASHINGTON (AP)—In an encouraging development for consumers worried about antibiotics in their milk, a new Food and Drug Administration study showed little evidence of drug contamination after surveying almost 2,000 dairy farms.

In response to concerns, the agency in 2012 took samples of raw milk from the farms and tested them for 31 drugs, almost all of them antibiotics. Results released by the agency Thursday show that less than 1 percent of the total samples showed illegal drug residue.

Antibiotics and other drugs can end up in milk when they are used on dairy cows to keep them healthy. Small levels of some drugs are allowed in milk, but residues that go beyond certain thresholds are illegal.

"Overall this is very encouraging and reinforces the idea that the milk supply is safe," said the FDA's William Flynn, who led the study. He said the agency will use the findings to try and reduce the drug contamination even more.

Public health groups are

concerned about the levels of animal antibiotics that make it into food because consuming the drugs could potentially be harmful to humans. Repeated exposure to antibiotics can lead germs to become resistant to the drugs so that they are no longer effective. Drug residues can also be harmful if they prompt allergies or other reactions.

The industry does regular testing for some of the drugs the FDA tested, but public health advocates had expressed particular concern about milk that had come from dairy farms that had repeatedly tried to sell older cows for slaughter with illegal levels of antibiotic residue in their tissue. So the FDA study focused on those farms with previous violations, with about half of the samples coming from them and half from a control group.

FDA said 11 of the samples from the group with previous violations showed illegal levels of drug residue and four from the control group showed illegal residue. Flynn said the illegal

drug residues found in the study were from unapproved drugs, so any level is illegal.

The agency said the study was blind, so no violations would be reported.

The milk industry balked when the FDA first announced the study in 2010, expressing concerns that the broad testing would disrupt the milk supply. After negotiations, the testing began in 2012 and the agency spent the next two years analyzing the results.

The industry praised the study as it was released.

"These results are great, but we still are aiming for zero positives in the future," said Jim Mulhern, CEO of the National Milk Producers Federation.

David Plunkett of the Center for Science in the Public Interest says the study shows that drug residues are "a small problem" but that there should be expanded testing to bring the levels down even further.

"The fact that it is a small problem indicates it's a problem we should be able to resolve," Plunkett said.

Personal Trainer

Throwing with a hurt wing

Most arm and shoulder injuries heal slowly, and it's wise to go easy as you become active again; some low-impact ways to throw:

Let uninjured arm help out



Shoulder

Grip front of shoulder strongly with fingers, thumb

Hold elbow on hurt side against body

Twist body; give strong wrist flick before release

Wrist

Grip wrist firmly from front with index finger on palm

Use back and shoulders muscles, twisting body as you throw



Elbow

Bend elbow and grip firmly in bend

Throw with back and shoulder muscles and a strong wrist flick



Some even lower-impact techniques

- Learn to throw with your good arm — an interesting lesson in coordination

- Use a tennis ball thrower; makes throwing balls for a dog easy



Source: Men's Health
Graphic: Paul Trap, Tribune News Service

Life & Style

Doctor helping downed pilot is shocked to find Harrison Ford

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Dr. Sanjay Khurana was close to finishing a golf game when a vintage plane clipped a tree and “dropped like a rock” onto the green. He rushed to the crash, finding a pilot bleeding from a deep gash in his head.

When the surgeon got a closer look, he was stunned to see the pilot was Harrison Ford, the actor he grew up watching in the “Star Wars” and “Indiana Jones” movie franchises.

“I’m a child of the ‘80s,”

Khurana said Friday. “I’m a big fan.”

One of Hollywood’s pre-eminent stars, who is also an experienced pilot, crash-landed his World War II-era plane Thursday, but he was conscious and able to talk when witnesses pulled him from the wreckage.

Soon after Ford took off from Santa Monica Municipal Airport near Los Angeles, he radioed that the single engine of his 1942 Ryan Aeronautical ST3KR stopped working and he was going to make an immediate return.

Ford, who received his pi-



Officials work on the scene of a vintage airplane that crash-landed on the Penmar Golf Course in the Venice area of Los Angeles, Thursday, March 5, 2015. Harrison Ford crash-landed the airplane shortly after taking off from a nearby airport and reporting engine problems.

lot’s license in the 1990s, glided his plane onto a fairway near the airport in what aviation experts characterized as a skillful landing given a total loss of power above a densely populated area.

Ford’s publicist, Ina Treciakas, said the actor’s injuries were “not life-threatening, and he is expected to make a full recovery.” Ford’s son Ben tweeted Thursday from the hospital: “Dad is ok. Battered, but ok! He is every bit

the man you would think he is. He is an incredibly strong man.”

No one on the ground was hurt.

It was immediately clear to fellow pilots that Ford did a remarkable job guiding his crippled plane away from homes and, without enough altitude to reach the airport, onto the golf course’s relatively flat ground.

“I would say that this is an absolutely beautifully executed—what we would call—a forced or emergency landing,”

said Christian Fry of the Santa Monica Airport Association.

The fact that a spinal surgeon was playing a round of golf after a morning operation gave the crash-landing its own movie-like quality.

Khurana didn’t realize the actor who played Han Solo and Indiana Jones was at the plane’s controls until Ford lay about 10 yards (10 meters) from the plane. Fellow golfers who rushed to the pilot’s aid helped

remove him from the open cockpit, fearing leaking fuel might ignite.

After hitting a tree, the plane “kind of spun a little bit and belly-flopped” with such force it felt like a small earthquake, Khurana said. He estimated it fell “like a rock” about 100 feet (30 meters).

After dropping his clubs and rushing to the plane, Khurana found a bloodied pilot groaning, complaining of pain below his waist and “trying to get a sense of where he was and what had happened.”

It took several golfers to hoist Ford away from the wreckage, Khurana said.

“My initial fear was this was going to be one of those very serious, very tragic injuries right away. Fortunately, he was remarkably intact,” Khurana said.

As the doctor checked Ford’s breathing, circulation and other vitals, Khurana’s optimism grew. Then he realized he was treating the man who brought to life heroic characters of his youth.

It didn’t take long for paramedics to arrive and for Khurana to reflect on what had happened.

“I don’t think I would have ever imagined waking up that morning, that after an early day of surgery, I’d see an airplane crash,” he said. “It’s a very odd scenario. But I’m glad I could have been of help.”

Madonna: Working out saved me from injuries after my fall

NEW YORK (AP)—Exercising regularly has been like a prayer answered for Madonna: The singer says thanks to staying active, she didn’t suffer much after falling during her performance at the Brit Awards.

“If wasn’t in good shape—tuck and roll,” the singer, laughing, said during an interview with The Associated Press on Thursday night. “I attribute a lot of the fact that I came out all right because I’m in good shape.”

The 56-year-old tumbled last week during a live performance after her dancers tugged at her flowing cape, dragging her down three steps. She got up after being yanked and continued her performance of “Living for Love.”

Madonna said the cape had been tied too tightly at the neck and after the performance, she said she suffered whiplash.

On Thursday, she said she was doing OK.

Madonna said she’s switched up her workout routines over the years to “keep things inter-

esting, shock my body.”

“I still do a lot of dance cardio. I started doing yoga again. I do interval training, metabolic interval training ... jumping ropes; something called body art,” she said. “It has to change. You get bored doing the same thing over and over again.”

She said her workout playlist includes hip-hop, house and dance music.

“Anywhere from 120-128 beats per minute is a like good tempo for me,” she said.

Madonna added that her iPod cur-



Madonna

rently is playing EDM producer Kidnap Kid and Diplo, who produced some of her new album “Rebel Heart,” out next week. She’s also been listening to electronic duo Disclosure and rapper Drake—acts she may collaborate with in the future.

“I almost worked with Disclosure, but it didn’t work out because they were on tour while I was making my record,” she said. “I don’t know, maybe I’ll collaborate with Drake.”

An 11-year-old is sent home from school for Christian Grey costume

LONDON (AP)—Thousands of British students mark World Book Day by going to school in costume as their favorite fictional characters. But one 11-year-old found himself in a bind when he dressed as Christian Grey, the S&M-loving billionaire hero of erotic thriller “50 Shades of Grey.”

Teachers at Sale High School in northwestern England sent Liam Scholes home Thursday after deeming his suit, accessorized with cable ties and an eye mask, unacceptable.

The school said Friday that the decision “reflects the school’s high standards in terms of student behavior, welfare and safeguarding.” It said Liam was allowed to re-

turn once he had “modified” his costume.

Liam’s mother, Nicola Scholes, said the costume had been her son’s idea, and defended his choice.

Scholes said other pupils had dressed as James Bond and the title character from “American Sniper.”

She told ITV television that Grey is “a character that has been put out there on the television and all aspects of media. ... (Liam) walked into school yesterday and every child knew who he was.”

Scholes stressed that her son had not read the book, which has sold more than 100 million copies around the world, or seen the steamy film adaptation.

NEW YORK (AP)—Oscar-winning composer Hans Zimmer is known for powerful scores for such films as “Inception,” “Gladiator” and “The Dark Night.” Now he’s hoping to knock people out with music for the small screen.

Zimmer, who had a childhood fascination for Muhammad Ali, has supplied the music for the upcoming television series Premier Boxing Champions.

The show’s executive producer Michael Marto plans to broadcast 30-40 fights per year on a variety of networks, including NBC, CBS and Spike. The first fight premieres Saturday live on NBC.

Marto believes a memorable soundtrack “elevates the brand,” and was glad Zimmer was willing to come on board for the project.

“He could have given us one optimistic, crowd-pleasing ‘Rocky’ theme and be done, but he went much further. He did as much music for this as for ‘Gladiator’ or ‘The Last Samurai,’” Marto said.

While Zimmer admits he intended to record far less music, the sights and sounds around the gym inspired him to produce over 70 minutes of musical

content that reflect a variety of moods and emotions.

Recently, Zimmer spoke with The Associated Press to discuss the project, his unique approach and playing guitar during Pharrell Williams performance of “Happy” at the Grammy Awards.

AP: Tell us about that guy in a bow tie and tails playing guitar at the Grammys.

Zimmer: Pharrell is the most gracious human being I know. Basically he let this 57-year old man become a 17-year old guitar-playing lunatic again. I had the time of my life. Things like this are once in a lifetime: to stand on stage at the Grammys playing guitar, you know, just basically rocking out.

AP: Do you and Pharrell have much in common?

Zimmer: Pharrell and I probably know each other for 10 years. Once we started talking to each other, we just knew that we had so much in common—our way of seeing the world, our way of seeing music—we had so much in common. Just because we work in

completely different styles, it means nothing.

AP: Why does boxing appeal to you?

Zimmer: Growing up in Germany during the ‘60s and ‘70s, the most famous name in the world was (Muhammad) Ali. He was known internationally. He was more famous than The Rolling Stones. I remember seeing the fights on television and thinking, “That was really exciting.”

AP: So why score a TV boxing show?

Zimmer: Seeing young fighters coming up and changing their lives complete-

ly—there was a lot of discipline, not much different than growing up to be a musician. I’m a musician and would never climb in the ring. I would never have the courage to do that. So part of it is the sheer unimaginable thing that these guys do. There is a visceral quality to this sport, and an extraordinary amount of thinking and artistry and dedication. I did a gladiator movie, so I had some funny qualifications that allowed me to get into the ring.

AP: This score is more

than a soundtrack to a boxing show. How did you approach it?

Zimmer: I just treat it like a movie. I kept thinking of the loneliness. What does it feel like to be beaten? What does it feel like to win? All of these extreme emotions are inspiring.

AP: You took a unique approach to the sounds for this score?

Zimmer: All the percussion is actually the guys punching either a bag or punching each other, so instead of drums, it’s actually the sound of the glove connecting... When I walked into the gym, and heard the sound—I’d be hard pressed to find a percussionist who whacks his drums with as much power as these guys have. So why settle for second best?... I use the sounds of the punches to create a rhythm out of it. Then I went to London and recorded it with an orchestra. I approached it like I was doing a large film score.

AP: Any young musicians you wish you could work with?

Zimmer: Every time I see Bruno Mars doing anything, I think I wish I was Bruno Mars. I just think that he’s so extraordinarily talented.



Zimmer

Sean Penn has "no apologies" for immigration joke at Oscars

BEVERLY HILLS, California (AP)—Sean Penn opened up about the immigration joke heard 'round the world on Saturday in Beverly Hills during a promotional tour for his new film "The Gunman," saying that he has "absolutely no apologies" for his comment. The actor-director also offered up choice words for those who didn't recognize the irony in his remarks.

On Feb. 22 at the 87th Academy Awards, Penn, tasked with presenting the best picture award, made waves when he opened the envelope and first asked "Who gave this son of a bitch his green card?" before announcing the winner as "Birdman."

Directed by the Mexican-born Alejandro Iñárritu, many wondered whether the joke was distasteful. The term "green card" refers to a document that confers permanent residency on immigrants in the United States.

"I found it hilarious," Iñárritu said after the ceremony. "Sean and I have that kind of brutal (relationship) where only true friendship can survive."

Iñárritu directed Penn in the 2003 film "21 Grams," and the two remain close to this date. "I make on him a lot of very tough jokes that I will not tell you," Iñárritu added.

While Iñárritu's casual dismissal of any perceived offense helped to temper the public response to the comment, Penn has remained largely silent on the topic.

"I'm always surprised by flagrant stupidity. I keep having more hope," said Penn of the widespread outrage that followed the moment.

"The fact is that I understand it. I see it all the time. When somebody sees the opportunity to frame something in the comfort that it will be common—that they can do that and they can get a group to look at them



AP
In this Feb. 22, 2015 file photo, presenter Sean Penn, left, and filmmaker Alejandro Iñárritu pose in the press room after winning multiple awards including best original screenplay, best director and best picture for "Birdman: Or (The Unexpected Virtue of Ignorance)," at the Oscars in Los Angeles.

ten the irony when you've got a country that is so xenophobic," he said. "If they had their way, you wouldn't have great filmmakers like Alejandro working in this country. Thank God we do."

Penn also clarified that the order of his comments were intentional.

"There's a little inside humor with he and I where I know, and wanted him to know, that he would be the first person in that room to know that his film won," he said.

German singer wins ticket to Eurovision, declines to go

BERLIN (AP)—Andreas Kuemmert got handed what many musicians would consider a dream ticket, winning the popular vote to represent Germany at this year's Eurovision

Song Contest.

But to the shock of his fans, the 28-year-old rock and blues singer passed up the chance to sing for his country at the Vienna finals in May.

and that they will take on those positions and never really think about what it was," he added.

"I have absolutely no apolo-

gies," Penn said with calm resolve. "In fact, I have a big (exple-

tive) you for every ... anybody who is so stupid not to have got-

Amal Clooney to lecture on human rights at Columbia

NEW YORK (AP)—George Clooney's wife is joining the faculty of Columbia University as a visiting lecturer.

Columbia announced Friday lawyer Amal Clooney will lecture on human rights this spring. She also will serve as a senior fellow with its law school's Human Rights Institute.

Clooney served as a senior adviser to Kofi Annan when he was the U.N.'s envoy on Syria.

She also represented WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange in extradition proceedings.

Human Rights Institute co-director Sarah H. Cleveland says Clooney's "extensive experience" will enrich the experience of Columbia's students.

The Clooneys married in September. They're based in London, but he's filming "Money Monster" with Julia Roberts in New York this spring. Jodie Foster is directing.

Cate Blanchett adopts baby girl with husband Andrew Upton

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Cate Blanchett is expanding her family.

A spokeswoman for the actress said Friday that Blanchett and husband Andrew Upton have adopted a baby girl.

Edith Vivian Patricia Upton joins the couple's three sons, ages 6, 10 and 13.



Blanchett

Publicist Stephanie Gonzalez said no other details will be provided.

Blanchett can next be seen on the big screen in Disney's "Cinderella." The 45-year-old actress won her second Academy Award last year: best actress for "Blue Jasmine."

Idaho authorities: No booze during 'Fifty Shades of Grey'

BOISE, Idaho (AP) — Idaho authorities are telling movie theaters serving alcohol that they can't provide drinks during showings of the erotic blockbuster "Fifty Shades of Grey."

The Idaho State Police's Alcohol Beverage Control has contacted at least two theaters showing the popular film, ordering them to comply with a law banning businesses from serving booze to people watching sexually explicit films.

The law lists types of scenes requiring a booze ban. "Fifty Shades of Grey" features bondage and sadomasochism scenes.

Moviegoer Michele Williams of Eagle tells the *Idaho Statesman* in Boise in a Friday story that the message being sent is that women can't control themselves if they drink during the movie.



AP
In this Thursday, March 5, 2015 photo singer Andreas Kuemmert reacts after winning the final of the German qualification for the 60th Eurovision Song Contest 2015 in Hannover, Germany.

Kidney disease often goes undetected until it's too late

DEAR ABBY: Hypertension runs in my family, but as a pretty healthy 49-year-old, I didn't think much about it. I never realized that my pounding headaches were a direct result of high blood pressure. To make matters worse, the same high blood pressure that was causing my head to throb was also destroying my kidneys.

I wish I had known about my high blood pressure sooner and taken it seriously. When I finally learned about my kidney damage, it was too late to save them.

More than 73 million people are at risk for developing kidney disease, and I sincerely want to help them avoid this fate. My battle with kidney disease has turned me into an advocate for patients and those who are at risk. In honor of National Kidney Month in March and World Kidney Day on March 12, will you please help me spread the word?

LANCE TAYLOR IN MINNESOTA

DEAR LANCE: I'm pleased to help you in this worthwhile effort. According to the National Kidney Foundation, one in three American adults is at risk for kidney disease. Major risk factors for kidney disease include diabetes, high blood pressure, a family history of kidney failure and being age 60 or older. Additional risk factors include kidney stones, smoking, obesity and cardiovascular disease.

Kidney disease often goes undetected because it lacks physical symptoms until the very late stages. By then the organs have already failed. But early detection, healthy lifestyle changes and proper treatment can slow the progress of kidney disease. Those at risk should have simple blood and urine tests to check if their kidneys are working properly.

Readers, if you are at risk, during your next physical examination, ask your health care practitioner to check your kidneys. To learn more about prevention, visit kidney.org. You will also find information about free KEEP Healthy kidney screenings in your area.

DEAR ABBY: My 17-year-old son told me he has finally had his first kiss, and it was with another boy. I'm not sure what to think.

When he was in eighth grade, he had a crush on a girl named "Lisa." She rejected him because she had a girlfriend. Then he dated a girl, "Annie," but it didn't last because he said he felt only friendship for her. Then he became friends with this boy "Joey" in high school, who spent the night several times. He told me from the start this boy was gay (this is the boy he kissed). Now Joey has a girlfriend.

To say the least, I'm confused. I know that in this generation, everything is acceptable. I have no problem if my son is gay, and I will love him no matter what, but I honestly think he is just con-

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



fused. (He says this, too.) Is there anything I can do to help him through this?

MODERN MOM IN MARYLAND

DEAR MODERN MOM: Yes. Tell your son you love him and all you want is for him to be happy. Then let him figure this out for himself. Trust me, he will. Things will be clearer in the future.

Abby shares more than 100 of her favorite recipes in two booklets: "Abby's Favorite Recipes" and "More Favorite Recipes by Dear Abby." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$14 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Cookbooklet Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

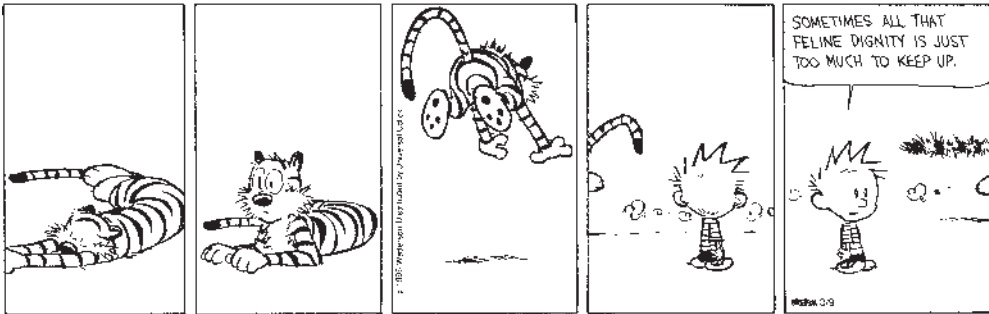
Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

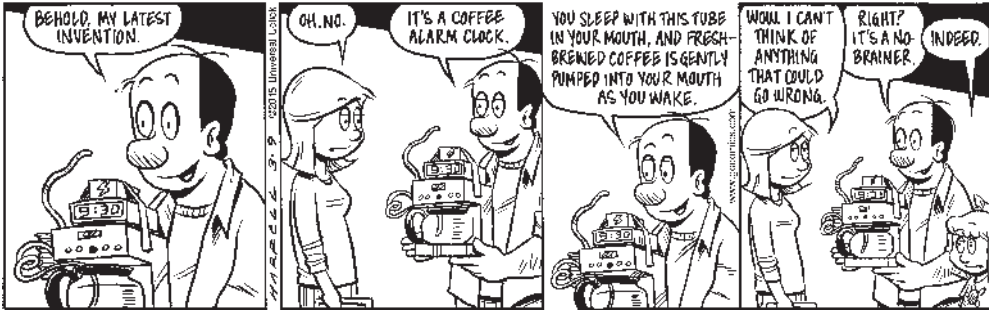


Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Im-presses greatly

5 Youngster in a cave

8 White-glove discovery

12 Fish with a prehensile tail

14 Norway's capital

15 Lima bein'?

16 Paper quantity

17 Vat

18 Heavy hammer

20 Photo book

23 Fraud

24 Hen pen

25 G.B.S. devotee

28 Right angle

29 Island farewell

30 Shelter from the storm

32 Riga resident

34 Barrel

DOWN

35 Denomination

36 Flavor

37 Current measure

40 Supporting

41 Laugh-a-minute

42 Flood-related

47 Misfortunes

48 As one

49 Lotion additive

50 Baby food

51 Cowgirl Evans

Solution time: 26 mins.

Friday's answer 3-9

J	O	B	M	A	L	E	R	S	V	P
A	I	L	A	D	A	M	H	O	E	R
B	L	U	E	J	A	S	Y	J	R	I
E	W	O	K	S	T	R	A	M		
F	I	B	E	R	E	T	C	H		
O	D	O	R	S	C	R	A	M	B	L
N	E	O	S	O	L	O	N	L	E	E
T	A	K	E	A	W	A	J	A	L	
T	I	N	T	B	E	E	F	Y		
A	F	O	U	L	G	L	E	N		
L	A	I	D	B	L	U	E	M	O	O
F	I	N	E	L	O	R	E	T	A	B
A	R	K	S	Y	C	U	D	E	T	C

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Bow Wow, 28; Brittany Snow, 29; Matthew Gray Gubler, 35; Juliette Binoche, 51.

Happy Birthday: You'll be tuned in to what's going on around you and how to make the current trends work to your advantage. Change is the name of the game, and your ability to adapt will help you break new ground in an industry that interests you. Love is highlighted, and self-expression encouraged. Business trips will bring the results you are searching for. Your numbers are 7, 13, 21, 24, 32, 35, 41.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): A personal change will be in your best interest. View your situation realistically and do what's best for you. Follow your heart and believe in yourself. Love is on the rise, and your charm will attract someone special. ★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Offer assistance to someone who is having trouble grasping a skill required to get ahead. Your kind actions will result in a long-lasting friendship that will present many benefits in the future. It's what you do, not what you say, that counts. ★★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Jump into action and get things going. Your original way of seeing and doing things will attract interest in what you are trying to accomplish. Getting involved in a cause you believe in will encourage new friendships. ★★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Stick to what you do best. Don't let criticism slow you down or ruin your self-esteem. Work

quietly on a creative idea and you will make headway and regain your confidence. The youngsters in your life will bring you joy. ★★★★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You've got what it takes to make things happen. Be the forerunner by making suggestions or setting up plans and events and you will enhance your relationships with the people who can influence your personal and professional goals. ★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Examine your financial matters. If you haven't been happy with the investments you have or a deal someone has offered you, take time to renegotiate or make changes that can help you do better in the future. ★★★★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You are best to take control and stay on top of any situation with a business or personal partner that needs addressing. Facing concerns honestly and with diplomacy will help you avoid future concerns. Love is in the stars. ★★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Emotions will be difficult to contain. If you love someone, let him or her know. Make positive changes at home, but don't do so without getting the go-ahead from someone who has to live with your decisions. Stick to a set budget. ★★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You can make positive changes at home. Taking steps that will improve your living arrangements will enhance your love life. Reconnecting with people from your past or making vacation plans will inspire you to take care of your responsibilities. ★★★★★

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Don't feel pressured to do something you aren't prepared for. Observe what others do, and you will get a better idea of the motives involved. Avoid emotional confrontations. Protect your assets. ★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Take time to tie up loose ends. Go over your personal paperwork and look for opportunities that can lead to a higher income. Focus on yourself, your skills and following your dreams. Romance will enhance your love life. ★★★★★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Don't cut corners or someone will criticize you. Problems while traveling or dealing with superiors will develop if you are evasive or misleading. Do your best to explain your intentions to avoid a misunderstanding with someone who can disrupt your plans. ★★★

Birthday Baby: You are expressive, friendly and unique. You are inquisitive and you seek adventure.

Eugenia's website—eugenialast.com, Eugenia's android app @ <http://bit.ly/exhoro> and join Eugenia on [twitter](https://twitter.com/eugenialast)/[facebook](https://facebook.com/eugenialast)/[linkedin](https://linkedin.com/company/eugenialast).

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

				9	2	1				
6	9							8	2	
			5		6		9			
3			5		2				8	
8		7				1			5	
1			6		7				3	
		3		5		2				
9	1							6	7	
			7	9	4					

Difficulty Level ★

3/09

©2012 Conceptis Puzzles, Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Last Friday's SUDOKU Answer

4	6	5	1	3	7	9	8	2
8	2	3	9	5	6	1	4	7
9	1	7	4	8	2	3	5	6
1	5	9	2	4	8	7	6	3
2	3	4	6	7	5	8	9	1
6	7	8	3	9	1	5	2	4
5	9	2	7	1	4	6	3	8
7	8	6	5	2	3	4	1	9
3	4	1	8	6	9	2	7	5

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

BEAUTIFUL BRAZIL

Solution: 10 letters

C	C	P	R	I	O	D	E	J	A	N	E	I	R	O
E	A	R	I	E	S	A	N	I	M	I	N	E	S	S
C	M	R	O	R	C	U	R	I	T	I	B	A	L	A
I	O	P	N	S	A	I	B	E	A	N	S	A	L	N
R	B	D	A	I	S	N	F	U	O	T	O	A	T	
E	S	R	A	N	V	O	H	E	G	A	T	E	F	O
V	A	A	A	R	A	A	R	A	N	S	B	S	S	
I	L	B	M	S	R	D	L	G	I	Y	G	U	Z	A
R	V	M	P	U	I	E	A	R	O	P	E	A	A	
N	A	A	C	L	P	L	C	S	L	T	R	N	U	
O	D	S	A	I	A	I	O	I	R	A	G	A		
Z	O	E	H	R	N	I	R	A	N	T	I	M	I	U
A	R	C	B	U	G	H	N	A	D	U	S	E	S	L
M	R	A	R	A	E	C	T	S	A	I	O	G	E	O
A	C	O	F	F	E	E	F	E	I	J	O	A	D	A

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Amazon River, Archipelagos, Beans, Brasilia, Cabral, Carnival, Ceara, Cerrado, Coffee, Cristo, Cross, Curitiba, Empanadas, Ethnic, Feijoada, Gerais, Goias, Iguazu Falls, Manaus, Mato Grosso, Minas, Mines, Natal, Olinda, Para, Piranha, Plains, Pumas, Real, Recife, Rice, Rio De Janeiro, Salvador, Samba, Santos, Sao Paulo, Soybean, Tour

Last Friday's Answer: Bull
To purchase WONDERWORD books, visit www.WonderWordBooks.com, or call 1-800-642-6480.

STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CLASSIFIED ADS



WHATZIT Solution: Current account

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 5-day run in both print and online editions, for as low as \$30 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	\$15	\$30
• 5-Liner	\$24	\$45

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.



Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.



Find today's solution in classified section

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

1 – HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATOR

High school diploma with (5) years minimum work related experience. Able to operate various heavy equipment including but not limited to Backhoe/Loader, Compactor, Tractor/Trailer Combo, Bulldozer, Hydraulic Crane and Grader. Crane operator must be able to pass required crane certification exam. Must understand load weights and check them against lifting capacities to prevent overload and have full knowledge of how to operate cranes, or other moving equipment for lifting, moving, or placing loads. Learn and follow safety regulations. Take actions to avoid potential hazards or obstructions, such as utility lines, other equipment, other workers, or falling objects. Clean, lubricate and inspect mechanisms or accessories such as cables, pulleys, or grapples to prevent malfunctions or damage. Perform routine maintenance of equipment. Must have knowledge in troubleshooting and able to diagnose problem or malfunction and make repairs as necessary.

Interested qualified applicants can submit their resume and latest police clearance via e-mail to saipan@aicconstruction.com or mail to AIC Marianas, Inc., PMB 564 PPP Box 10000, Saipan, MP 96950. Closing date: March 11, 2015.

CHINESE GOODS INC.

Job Vacancy Announcement

2 – COOKS

- Minimum of 2 years work related experience
- Knowledgeable in Chinese cuisine
- Able to work flexible work hours/schedule

Mail resume to P.O. Box 502351, Saipan MP 96950

Vacancy Announcement

(1) Fisherman

Atleast 2 yrs. experience. Must be able to handle difficult weather conditions, possess physical strength. Knowledge in operating a boat.

Submit Applications To:
Joseph Jones
Tel. # (670)483-1565

Warehouse for RENT

REM GUALO RAI
Warehouse #3 - Size: 4,000sq/ft
\$0.85 per sq/ft. Negotiable

REM LOWERBASE
Warehouse #2 - Size: 6,000sq/ft
\$0.65 per sq/ft. Negotiable

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL
235-6527/28 or 285-1317

WANTED TO BUY

Need Quick Cash? I am looking for a house or lot to buy in Garapan. (670) 484-4071 or (671) 687-5863.

LOOKING FOR A HOUSE

Urgently looking for a house to rent near As Matuis or Lower Capitol Hill. Four to Five Bedroom House. Preferably furnished with Water Heater and A/Cs. Please call or text 483-6199.

www.saipantribune.com

CLICK IT OR TICKET DAY & NIGHT

LSG Sky Chefs

LSG SKY CHEFS is looking for the following positions:

- Customer Service/QA Clerk**
- Warehouse/Purchasing Clerk**
- Warehouse/Receiving Clerk**
- Sanitation Worker**
- Counter Attendant**
- Delivery Driver**
- Cook Helper**
- Butcher**
- Baker**
- Cook**

Interested applicants, please email resume to rita.taitano@lsgskycheffs.com
No phone calls please.

CMLC ARTHA CO., LTD.
P.O.Box 500439, Saipan, MP 96950

Job Vacancy Announcement

(1) Dive Instructor
Preferably can speak Korean and Japanese.

Must possess current Scuba Diving instructor license from a Professional Scuba Diving Association (PADI, NAUI, CMAS). Must have at least 2 to 5 years experience.

No phone call please. Interested U.S. applicants can send their resume to acctg.cmlc@gmail.com

Saipan Seventh-day Adventist School

Is requesting applicants for:

(2) Child Development Center/ Pre-School Teachers

- Minimum Two years experience working with young children in a school setting
- Bachelor of Science or Bachelor of Arts degree
- CPR / First Aid Certified
- Knowledge of child development and curriculum
- Must be a member in good standing of the Seventh-day Adventist Church
- Willing to adhere to all school policies and procedures

Send resumes to:
Saipan SDA School Principal
P.O. Box 501063 Saipan MP 96950

Kanoa Resort Saipan

(9) COOK

Qualifications:
High School graduate or equivalent with three (3) years work experience preferably in a hotel. Basic culinary skills and good hygiene knowledge is essential. Ability to work a variable schedule on occasion, including early morning, evenings and/or weekends.

(1) A/C REFRIGERATION MECHANIC / TECHNICIAN

Qualifications: Completion of an apprenticeship program or two (2) years of experience. Capable of reading schematic diagram, can work on commercial temperature control and air quality. Perform a wide array of duties, inspect, maintain and troubleshoot centralized A/C cooling tower. Require post-secondary instruction from technical and trade schools or community colleges that offer programs in air-conditioning and refrigeration and/or associate's degree. Must be able to work flexible hours including nights, weekends and holidays.

Interested applicants may send their applications to hr@kanoaresort.com. Application forms may be obtained at our Security Office located at the back wing of our resort. To be considered, applications must be submitted not later than March 11, 2015. Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.

Kanoa Resort is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Qualified Women, Minorities, Veterans and Persons with Disabilities are urged to apply.

APARTMENTS FOR RENT

Fina Sisu Terraces
Small 1-BR, 1-BTH. Unit approximately 284 sq.ft. **\$250/month.**
2-BR, 1-BTH. **\$350-\$550/month.** Close to NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted.

Ocean View Terraces
(Navy Hill) Unit Approximately 642 sq/ft
Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apt with private balcony & beautiful view.
\$600/month

Sunset View Terraces
(Navy Hill) Unit Approximately 642 sq/ft
Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apt with private balcony & beautiful view.
\$550/month

Hilltop Condominium*
(San Vicente) Unit approximately 1,024sq/ft
Luxury 2BR & 2BTH Apt with private balcony & majestic view. **\$700/month**
Luxury 1BR & 1BTH approximately 600 sq/ft **\$500/month**

***Wi-Fi & nighttime security excludud**

FEATURES:

- Fully Furnished
- Back-up Generator
- Air-conditioning in all rooms
- FREE WIFI
- Laundry Area
- Nighttime Security
- Ample Parking
- 24hr water

Please visit our website at www.saipan-properties.com
Call for an appointment **235-6527/8.**

Kanoa Resort Saipan

(2) GUEST SERVICES AGENT

Qualifications: High School diploma or GED certificate. Must have minimum of one or two years of training involving both on-the-job experience and informal training with experienced workers in providing quality customer and personal services. Must be able to speak, read and write in English and Chinese. Must be able to work a variable schedule including nights, weekends and holidays.

Interested applicants may send their applications to hr@kanoaresort.com. Application forms may be obtained at our Security Office located at the back wing of our resort. To be considered, applications must be submitted not later than March 12, 2015. Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.

Kanoa Resort is an Equal Opportunity Employer.


Qualified Women, Minorities, Veterans and Persons with Disabilities are urged to apply.

TAGA Sports is now on issuu.com/tagasports!

Check out the latest issue and back issues of TAGA Sports, the CNMI's first and premier sports magazine, on issuu.com/tagasports!

Now you won't have to miss a copy of TAGA Sports. Visit issuu.com/tagasports to get your fix on all sports happenings in the CNMI!

To inquire about ad rates or to place an ad, call (670) 235-2440, 235-6397, 235-8747.



is inviting qualified, U.S. workers to apply for the following positions:

(1) ASSISTANT FRONT OFFICE MANAGER
Minimum of two (2) years of previous experience managing the Front Office of a hotel, plus five (5) years of hotel/hospitality is required. Excellent written and oral communication skills are necessary. Must be able to solve guest complaints and work in a high-pressured environment. Assists with the Front Office operations, including a Call Center, Concierge, Tour Desk and Guest Service operations. Must have the ability to train employees to ensure standards of the hotel are met. Must be able to speak and understand one or more of the following languages: Korean, Japanese or Russian; Must be able to work graveyard shifts, evenings, weekends, and holidays.

(1) BAKER
Minimum of three (3) years of related work experience. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

(1) BUILDING MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR
Minimum of three (3) years of related work experience working in a similar role at a hotel, plus one (1) year supervisor experience required. Any combination of education and related work experience will be considered. High school diploma, or its equivalent, is required. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

(1) BUTCHER
Minimum of one (1) year related work experience as a butcher. Must be able to cook, marinate, roast and process all meat, fish and poultry products. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

(1) CHEF DE CUISINE
Minimum of three (3) years of relevant working experience in a familiar role for a hotel or resort environment. Experience in preparing multi-ethnic cuisine is required. Must have good knowledge of food preparation, food safety standards and have the ability to train and lead a team. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

(4) CHEF DE PARTIE
Minimum of three (3) years working in a similar capacity in a hotel, plus one (1) year of supervisory experience. Must have good management and organizational skills. Must have the ability to work independently and within a team, and have the ability to work well under pressure. Must have excellent communication skills. Must be able to work evenings, weekends, and holidays.

(12) COOK
Minimum of one (1) year related work experience. Must be able to work evenings, weekends, and holidays.

(2) ELECTRICIAN
Minimum of five (5) years work experience. Must be able to work shifts, weekends, and holidays.

(1) GENERAL MAINTENANCE
Minimum of three (3) years related work experience, preferably in a large hotel. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

(3) LEAD COOK
Minimum of three (3) years experience as a cook. At least one (1) year supervisory experience preferred. Must be able to work evenings, weekends, and holidays.

(1) POWERHOUSE SUPERVISOR
Minimum three (3) years experience in diesel power generator operations and one (1) year of supervisory experience. Must be a certified Water Treatment operator Class 2 and Water Distribution Class 1. Must be certified Class A/B UST operator. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

(2) PUBLIC AREA ATTENDANT
Minimum six (6) months of work experience. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

(1) RESERVATION SUPERVISOR
Minimum of four (4) years experience working in Front Desk or Reservations for a hotel, plus have at least Two (2) years of supervisory experience, preferably in hospitality. Must be able to use hotel PMS (Micros Opera) and Microsoft Excel. Must be able to understand, speak, read, write English and Korean. Must be able to work evenings, weekends, and holidays.

(1) TEPPANYAKI COOK
Minimum of five (5) years of related work experience; Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

Applications must be received by 5:00pm on Thursday, March 19th, 2015.
PIC applications are available at the PIC Security Desk by the Loading Dock/Employee Entrance. Incomplete applications will NOT be accepted or considered.
PIC is an Equal Opportunity Employer.



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

RFP15-GOV-037



Construction Management/Contract Compliance For Water Task Force Projects

Governor Eloy S. Inos and Lt. Governor Ralph Dlg. Torres, through the CNMI Water Task Force (WTF), are soliciting sealed Proposals from qualified Consultants to provide Construction Management/Contract Compliance Services for various WTF contracts and projects.

The project Scope of Work will be available on or after **February 16, 2015** at the Office of the Director, Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan.

All questions concerning this proposal shall be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 pm, **February 27, 2015** to Pedro Sasamoto, WTF Program Manager (facsimile) number (670) 664-2279.

This project is funded by a grant from the Office of Insular Affairs (OIA), Department of the Interior. Award of this project is contingent upon receipt of project approval from OIA.


The proposal procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations Section 70-30.3-305. Preference per Public Law 15-95 as further amended by Public Law 15-118 is not available in this procurement because its use is prohibited by the Federal law granting the funds for this project.

Proposals must be sealed and marked “**Construction Management/Contract Compliance**”, **RFP15-GOV-037**. One (1) original and four (4) copies must be submitted. Sealed proposals must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply, at Lower Base, Saipan, no later than **3:00 p.m., March 18, 2015 (CNMI local time)**.

The CNMI reserves the right to reject any and all proposals and to waive any imperfections in any proposal if to do so will be in the best interest of the CNMI. All proposals shall become the exclusive property of the CNMI government.


ELOY S. INOS
Governor

HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director of Procurement and Supply



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR



INVITATION FOR BIDS

IFB15-GOV-053

Security Services for Water Task Force Warehouse

Governor Eloy S. Inos and Lt. Governor Ralph Dlg. Torres, through the Water Task Force, are soliciting sealed Bids for Security Services for the Water Task Force Warehouse on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The project Scope of Work will be available at the Office of the Director, Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, on or after March 9, 2015.

This project is funded by a grant from the Office of Insular Affairs (OIA), Department of the Interior. The award of this contract is contingent upon receipt of the project approval from OIA. The Contractor is required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal laws including the Davis Bacon Act.

A mandatory Pre-Bid Conference is scheduled for 10:00 a.m. local time, March 20, 2015, at the CNMI Water Task Force Conference Room, 1316 Anatahan Dr., Capitol Hill, Saipan.

All questions regarding this IFB must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 pm, March 19, 2015, to Mr. Pedro Sasamoto, WTF Program Manager, facsimile number (670) 664-2279.

Bids must be sealed and marked “IFB15-GOV-053”. For bidders within the CNMI, one (1) original and four (4) copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 2:00 p.m. local time, April 8, 2015. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bid by submitting a Notice of Intent to Bid. Notices of Intent to Bid must be received by the Director of Procurement & Supply no later than 2:00 p.m. local time, April 8, 2015, and may be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515. For bidders located outside the CNMI, one (1) original and four (4) copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than April 8, 2015, and must be received no later than April 22, 2015. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.


Bids will be publicly open and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at 3:00 pm local time, April 23, 2015. However, if no Notices of Intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at 3:00 pm local time on April 8, 2015.

The bid procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations. Preference is not available to local bidders in this procurement because its use is prohibited by the Federal law granting the funds for this project.

The CNMI reserves the right to reject any or all Bids and to waive any imperfections in any bid if to do so will be in the best interest of the CNMI. All Bids shall become the property of the CNMI government.


/s/ ELOY S. INOS
Governor

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director of Procurement & Supply



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR



INVITATION FOR BIDS

WATER TASK FORCE

IFB15-GOV-040

Governor Eloy S. Inos and Lt. Governor Ralph Dlg. Torres, through the CNMI Water Task Force, is soliciting sealed bids for the Lower Base Water Distribution System Improvement in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

A bid guarantee of 15 percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of the Treasury (T-Listed).

The Contractor will be required to submit payment and performance bonds from a US Treasury listed company. The Contractor will also be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal laws including the Davis Bacon Act.

This project is funded in part by a grant from the Economic Development Administration (EDA), US Department of Commerce and CIP-CDA (PL 17-90). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of the project approval from EDA.

The project consists, in general, but is not limited to:

- Construction of approximately 2,290 LF of 12-inch PVC, 9,560 LF of 8-inch PVC, and 2,540 LF of 6” PVC waterlines, fire hydrants, air relief valves, flush hydrants, blow-off valves, fittings and appurtenances.
- Install new service laterals and connect to existing water meter locations.
- Install gate valves, fittings, and connections to existing water mains at various locations.
- Abandon in-place of old PVC pipe.
- Restore disturbed asphalt paving and concrete pavements.
- Pressure testing and chlorination of new waterlines.
- Removal of temporary facilities and controls.
- Construction activity to not interrupt existing water service to the area.

A non-refundable payment of \$500 to CNMI Treasury is required for each set of Plans, Specifications, and Proposal Forms, available on or after February 23, 2015 at the Water Task Force Office, 1316 Anatahan Drive, Capitol Hill, Saipan. A mandatory pre-bid conference for this project is scheduled at 10:00 a.m., on March 6, 2015, at the WTF Conference Room, Saipan. A project site visit will be made as a part of the pre-bid meeting.

All inquiries shall be in writing and addressed to Pedro Sasamoto, Program Manager, Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950 or faxed to (670) 664-2279. Inquiries must be received no later than 4:30 PM on March 5, 2015.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, contained in the CNMI Administrative Code, Title 70 Subchapter 70-30.3-301. Preference is not available to local bidders in this procurement because its use is prohibited by the Federal law granting the funds for this project.

Sealed bids must be marked “IFB15-GOV-040”. For bidders within the CNMI, an original and three copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 2:00 pm local time March 25, 2015. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notices of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 2:00 pm local time March 25, 2015, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and three copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than March 25, 2015, and must be received no later than April 6, 2015. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly open and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at 3:00 pm local time, April 7, 2015. However, if no Notices of Intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at 3:00 pm local time on March 25, 2015.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

/s/Eloy S. Inos, Governor

/s/Herman S. Sablan, Director of Procurement & Supply

Lowly 76ers surprise short-handed Hawks, 92-84



PHILADELPHIA (AP)—Hollis Thompson and Luc Mbah a Moute scored 19 points apiece, and the Philadelphia 76ers surprised the short-handed Atlanta Hawks 92-84 on Saturday night.

Nerlens Noel had 11 points and 17 rebounds for the 76ers, who erased a 16-point deficit to win for the second time in 11 games. Philadelphia (14-49) entered with the NBA's second-worst record.

Jeff Teague had 17 points to pace Atlanta, which had its six-game winning streak snapped. The Hawks (49-13), who came in with the best record in the league, rested starters Paul Millsap, Kyle Korver and DeMarre Carroll—taking more than 41 points out of their lineup.

Atlanta scored just 31 points while shooting 27.5 percent (11 for 40) after halftime. The Hawks were coming off impressive home victories over league powers Cleveland and Houston.

Philadelphia pulled out of a 53-47 halftime deficit with a strong third quarter when it outscored Atlanta 25-16. The Hawks were 5 for 22 from the field in the period.

Atlanta erased a three-point deficit at the start of the fourth with consecutive 3-pointers by Mike Scott and Shelvin Mack to take a 75-72 lead. But the 76ers scored the next four and took their largest lead of the quarter on Noel's layup with 3:10 left that made it 87-83.

Noel then dove at midcourt

for a steal, was fouled and made one of two free throws to put the Sixers up five. Mbah a Moute's 3-pointer from the top of the key gave Philadelphia a 91-84 advantage with 1:05 left.

Atlanta was looking to reach 50 wins for the first time since the 2009-10 season.

Philadelphia scored the first eight points of the second half to take a 55-53 lead with 9:10 left in the third quarter, as the Hawks missed all seven of their field goal attempts during the 76ers' run. Philadelphia led by as many as seven, on Thomas Robinson's layup with 43.4 seconds left in the period, before ending the third with a 72-69 lead.

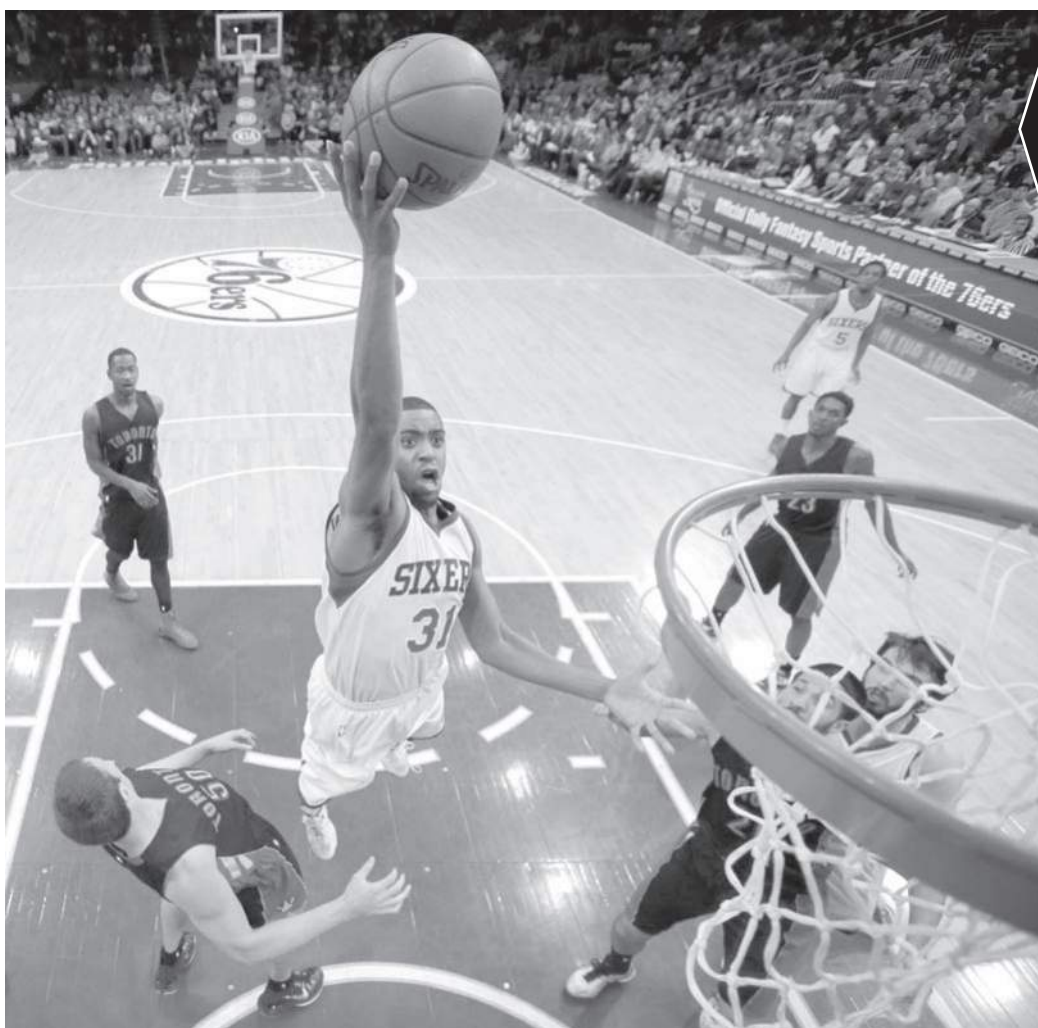
Teague had 13 points and Al Horford scored 12 to help the Hawks go up 53-47 at the break. Atlanta shot 51.4 percent in the opening half while holding Philadelphia to 38 percent.

Mbah a Moute had 11 first-half points for the 76ers, who trailed by as many as 16 in the opening 24 minutes.

Cavaliers 89, Suns 72

In Cleveland, LeBron James tied Cleveland's career assists record and scored 17 points in the Cavaliers' victory over Phoenix.

James tied Mark Price at 4,206 assists in the third quarter. James was 6 for 16 from the field and had eight assists and six rebounds to help the Cavaliers win their 13th straight at home and move into a tie for second with Chicago in the Eastern Conference.



Philadelphia 76ers' Hollis Thompson (31) goes up for a shot against Toronto Raptors' Tyler Hansbrough (50) during the second half of an NBA basketball game, Monday, March 2, 2015, in Philadelphia.

Wilson Chandler had 26 points for Denver. The Nuggets are 2-2 under interim coach Melvin Hunt.

Pelicans 95, Grizzlies 89

In New Orleans, Tyreke Evans scored 26 points, Anthony Davis added 23 points and 10 rebounds, and New Orleans overcame an 18-point deficit to beat Memphis.

Eric Gordon scored 16 points, including two free throws with 24.5 seconds left, to help New Orleans win for the seventh time in nine games and pull a half-game behind Oklahoma City for the last playoff spot in the Western Conference.

Jeff Green had 20 points for Memphis.

Timberwolves 121, Trail Blazers 113

In Minneapolis, Kevin Martin scored 29 points and Ricky Rubio hit a big 3-pointer with a minute left to help Minnesota snap a four-game skid and end Portland's winning streak at five games.

Rubio had 13 points, 15 assists and eight rebounds, and his late 3 gave the Wolves a 109-102 lead. Gary Neal scored 27 off the bench and Andrewiggins added 18 points.

Damian Lillard had 32 points, eight assists and seven rebounds, and LaMarcus Aldridge added 21 points and eight rebounds for Portland in its first game since losing Wesley Matthews for the season to an Achilles injury.

Pacers 92, Knicks 86

In New York, Rodney Stuckey scored 17 points, George Hill made the tiebreaking 3-pointer with 2:34 left, and Indiana beat New York for its season-best fifth straight victory.

Hill had 15 points and David West finished with 14 points and 11 rebounds for Indiana. They have won 11 of 13 and came in tied for eighth place in the Eastern Conference.

Andrea Bargnani scored 21 points for the Knicks. They lost their third straight to drop to 12-49.

Bucks 91, Wizards 85

In Milwaukee, Khris Middleton scored 30 points and hit a key 3-pointer from the corner with 40.8 seconds left, and Milwaukee beat Washington to snap a four-game losing streak.

Middleton had missed a 3 but the offensive rebound was tracked down by center Zaza Pachulia, who flipped a pass back to Middleton for a successful follow.

Paul Pierce led the Wizards with 14 points.

Timofey Mozgov led the Cavaliers with 19 points, and Tristan Thompson had 15 points with 12 rebounds.

Markieff Morris scored 16 points for Phoenix.

Heat 114, Kings 109, OT

In Miami, Dwyane Wade scored 28 points, Tyler Johnson added 24 and Miami erased a 12-point, fourth-quarter deficit to beat

Sacramento.

Johnson's 3-pointer as the shot clock was expiring with just under a minute left put the Heat up four. Wade added a pair of free throws with 31.2 seconds remaining as Miami won its third straight home game—almost unbelievably, its longest such stretch of the season.

DeMarcus Cousins had 27 points and 17 rebounds before fouling out for Sacramento.

Rudy Gay scored 27 points, and Ben McLemore added 20.

Rockets 114, Nuggets 100

In Denver, James Harden scored 28 points, Corey Brewer had 24 and Houston Rockets snapped a three-game road losing streak with a victory over Denver.

Trevor Ariza had 19 points and Donatas Motiejunas added 18 for the Rockets.

Lynch returning to Seahawks with new contract



RENTON, Wash. (AP)—"Beast Mode" is getting paid.

Marshawn Lynch is receiving a hefty raise for at least one more season in the Seattle Seahawks backfield.

Lynch signed a two-year extension with the Seahawks on Friday that keeps him under contract with Seattle through the 2017 season, but more importantly includes a massive raise for the 2015 season. Lynch's restructured deal will pay him \$12 million for 2015, according to his agent Doug Hendrickson.

Lynch agreed to his new deal Friday after meeting with Seahawks officials. Hendrickson said the deal includes an additional \$24 million for the 2016 and 2017 seasons should Lynch continue his career into his 30s.

He is coming off arguably the best season of his career. He scored a career-high 17 total touchdowns, including 13 rushing. He rushed for 1,306 yards in the regular season and added another 318 yards in three post-season games. Lynch had 102 yards rushing and a touchdown in the Super Bowl.

At the NFL combine last month in Indianapolis, Seattle

coach Pete Carroll acknowledged having made a significant offer to Lynch for 2015. Lynch was scheduled to make \$7 million for the 2015 season.

"We have been in earnest a great deal of time now negotiating to get Marshawn back with us in every way that we can," Carroll said at the combine. "It's been an ongoing, long process and we have had big offers out and we continue to work with that. We are excited about the future."

The biggest lingering question was whether Lynch would return at age 29 or if he was done playing football. Lynch's returned was complicated by the decision on Seattle's final offensive play of the Super Bowl against New England—a pass instead of asking Lynch to try and score from the 1—and if there was any lingering effect. Russell Wilson's pass was intercepted by Malcolm Butler and Seattle was denied a second straight title, leaving itself open to second-guessing for why Carroll and offensive coordinator Darrell Bevell chose not to give the ball to Lynch.

During an interview with a television station in Turkey last week—where Lynch was taking part in an American Football

Without Borders camp—Lynch said he was expecting to get the ball on Seattle's final offensive play. He added he didn't have a problem with the play call.

Aside from the decision in the Super Bowl, it became progres-

sively more difficult through last season to imagine the Seahawks without Lynch in their backfield. Lynch rushed for more than 100 yards five times and was the most consistent piece of the Seahawks' offense

that has won two straight NFC championships.

He has rushed for at least 1,200 yards in each of his four full seasons with the Seahawks, and had at least 11 touchdowns rushing. In 75 regular-season games with Seattle, Lynch has rushed for 5,930 yards and 54 touchdowns.

SIDEBAR

Source: Jets agree to acquire Brandon Marshall from Bears

NEW YORK (AP)—Brandon Marshall is on the move, heading from the Chicago Bears to the New York Jets.

A person familiar with the deal told The Associated Press that the Jets agreed to acquire the star wide receiver on Friday, pending a physical exam.

The trade, the first by new Jets general manager Mike Maccagnan, is for an unspecified draft pick, according to the person who spoke to the AP on condition of anonymity because neither team had announced the deal. The trade cannot become official until the NFL's new league year begins next Tuesday.

It was a busy and headline-making day for Maccagnan, who earlier Friday re-signed linebacker Davis Harris to a

three-year contract.

Marshall, who turns 31 on March 23, has played the last three seasons with the Bears. He dealt with injuries and had 61 catches last season, his lowest total since his rookie year with Denver in 2006, for 721 yards and eight touchdowns.

The Bears will save \$7.7 million by dealing Marshall, and also create nearly \$4 million in salary cap space. He is signed through 2017, but the final two years aren't guaranteed—meaning the Jets could reevaluate the move after the 2015 season.

Marshall will pair with Eric Decker and Jeremy Kerley on the Jets' receiving corps, but the move also leaves the future of Percy Harvin in doubt. Harvin is due \$10.5 million next

season, but Marshall's arrival likely makes him expendable.

If the Jets cut Harvin by March 19, they would owe Seattle a sixth-round draft pick after acquiring him from Seattle last October. If Harvin remains past that date, the Jets would give up a fourth-rounder.

Marshall has 773 career receptions for 1,289 yards and 65 touchdowns in nine NFL seasons. He is familiar with new Jets coach Todd Bowles, who was an assistant with the Miami Dolphins when Marshall played there in 2010 and 2011. Bowles was the interim coach for three games at the end of the 2011 season. Jets receivers coach Karl Dorrell was also Marshall's position coach in Miami in 2010.

Holmes gets an ace, 4 straight birdies to expand Doral lead

DORAL, Fla. (AP)—J.B. Holmes and Dustin Johnson made aces on the same hole about 20 minutes apart Saturday at Doral, both with a 7-iron from 207 yards and with a shot that reacted almost identically when it landed in the middle of the green and rolled up the slope and into the cup.

Both pounded one 300-yard drive after another on a course where length is a huge advantage. And for a brief moment, they were separated by one shot.

The difference turned out to be the shortest club in the bag.

Holmes found his groove with the putter late in the round that carried him to four straight birdies and expanded his lead in the Cadillac Championship. Even with a bogey on the final hole at Trump National Doral, he had a 2-under 70 and was five shots clear of Johnson (69) and Masters champion Bubba Watson (70).

"All you can really ask for is a chance to win on Sunday on the back nine," Holmes said.

On a day of two aces, five other eagles on par 4s and even a scuba driver retrieving the 3-iron that Rory McIlroy heaved into the lake the day before, Holmes took some of the drama out of Doral with his late surge.

The last time aces were recorded on the same hole in the same round on the PGA Tour was at Liberty National in 2013 at The Barclays. That was K.J. Choi and Greg Chalmers, and neither was in contention. This was different.

"Pushed it just a hair right," Johnson said about his hole-in-one on the fourth hole.

"I usually hit a little bit of a cut, and if I hit it perfect, it would stay straight," Holmes said. "And it did."

What separated them was the finish. Johnson converted a birdie on the 16th hole to pull within one shot of Holmes, who was struggling. He made his second bogey on a par 5 when he pushed his tee shot into a hazard at No. 12. He had to scramble from a bunker to save par on the 13th. But moments after Johnson made his birdie, Holmes poured in a 12-foot birdie putt on the 14th, the first of four in a row.

Three of those birdies were from 12 feet. The other was an up-and-down from the back bunker on the 301-yard 16th hole.

He ended with a bogey from the palm trees and fell back to 11-under 205. He still had a five-shot lead, and a chance to become the first player to lead wire-to-wire without ties at Doral since Andy Bean in 1977.

"If he keeps driving it, he's tough to beat," Ryan Moore said after salvaging a 74 to finish six shots behind. "He's hitting it long and straight and he's got clubs in holes that I can only dream of having. As long as he hits it straight in the fairway,



AP
J.B. Holmes shows his ball after hitting a hole-in-one on the fourth hole during the third round of the Cadillac Championship golf tournament Saturday, March 7, 2015, in Doral, Fla.



He was on the third green when he heard the roar and saw Johnson raise both arms after his 7-iron went in. Then, Watson was heading down the fifth fairway when he heard another roar and saw Holmes doing a jig on the tee box.

"Maybe one of us should have made a hole-in-one instead of skip a group," he said.

There was plenty of action elsewhere. Luke Donald and Oosthuizen holed bunker shots for eagle on the 16th. Rickie Fowler dunked one from the 11th fairway for eagle. There were 10 eagles in the third round, only three of them on a par 5.

Most satisfying to Holmes was having a five-shot lead going into the final round. He had the lead, and figured pars would be enough to keep it.

"You want to make some birdies, but I definitely wasn't planning on making four," Holmes said.

he's obviously got a huge advantage around here."

It's not a coincidence that Holmes, Watson and Johnson are in the top three in driving distance this week. Watson managed five birdies, the last one from the back bunker on the daunting closing hole at the Blue Monster. It was his second straight day holing a

bunker shot.

"I can't worry about what J.B. is doing," Watson said. "This golf course is hard enough as it is. If I start worrying about other people, I'm going to lose it."

Bill Haas had the low score of the third round, making eight birdies for a 65. He was tied for fifth with Louis Oosthuizen (67) and Henrik Sten-

son (72), though they were seven shots behind.

McIlroy provided the highlight of this tournament by slinging his 3-iron into the water left of the par-5 eighth hole Friday after a shot into the lake. He opted to play with only 13 clubs in the third round, but back-to-back bogeys on the front nine and back nine kept him from

making a move. He had a 72 and was 10 shots behind.

He wasn't aware of the diver that fished out his 3-iron. He wasn't aware of Holmes and Johnson making aces, either?

"No way," McIlroy said. "That's why I'm not leading the tournament."

Watson might have had the best view.

Rangers ace Yu Darvish might need Tommy John surgery



SURPRISE, Ariz. (AP)—

Yu Darvish and the Texas Rangers had hoped the tightness felt by the three-time All-Star in his triiceps during his spring training debut was nothing to be concerned about.

Instead, an MRI exam late Friday revealed just about the worst news possible.

Darvish has partially torn ligaments in addition to inflammation in his troublesome right elbow, and might need Tommy John surgery. It's another massive blow a suddenly snake-bit franchise that struggled through a rash of devastating injuries last season.

"Not going to sugarcoat it, it's not the news that we wanted," Rangers general manager Jon Daniels said. "You basically have two choices: You can hang your head and kind of dwell on it or you can do everything you can to get him the right care and get him back."

Just exactly what care that is had yet to be determined.

Darvish could try to pitch through the injury, rest it for

six weeks and then try to rebuild his stamina, or undergo surgery that would end his season before it begins.

That decision will be made after he visits Dr. David Altchek, the Mets' team physician and an expert in Tommy John surgery, on Tuesday in New York.

"The concern with the first two options is, are you delaying the inevitable?" he said. "It's not black and white. ... There's no guarantees with any course."

Darvish was shut down for the final seven weeks last season with inflammation in the same elbow. He underwent an MRI exam around Thanksgiving that came back clean, and had not experienced any trouble in workouts and bullpen sessions.

He first felt tightness while warming up in the bullpen before Thursday's game against Kansas City, but did not inform anyone before taking the mound. He threw 12 pitches in his only inning, and then informed the Rangers staff of some pain.

Still, he said afterward through a translator that he did not think it was serious.

"I will be disappointed if I have to miss this season, but I want to look at all the options including getting a second opinion before I make a final decision," Darvish said in a statement Saturday. "My heart is with my teammates and our focus remains on accomplishing our goals."

Darvish will remain at camp while a second surgeon studies the MRI exam results. If surgery is required, it would likely happen in the next couple of weeks.

That could give Darvish enough time to fully recover before the start of next season.

"Given the news, he's handled it extremely well," Daniels said. "He's very pragmatic about it. He's talking to the people he's close to before making a decision."

The news is a significant blow to the Rangers, who already are minus prized young infielder Jurickson Profar. He missed last year with a shoulder injury, and recently had shoulder surgery

again that might sideline him for the season.

Texas went through a devastating series of injuries last year, too. In the starting rotation alone, it lost Tanner Scheppers, Matt Harrison and Martin Perez to injuries by the middle of May. They also lost lineup mainstays Prince Fielder, Mitch Moreland and Shin-Soo Choo for long periods of time.

Ultimately, the club set a record for most players on a 25-man roster in a single season, and needed 40 pitchers to get through 162 games—three of them position players. The rotation alone required 14 different pitchers, nobody making more than 25 starts.

Darvish was limited to 22 starts between neck stiffness that caused him to miss the beginning of the season the elbow inflammation that caused him to be shut down late in the season.

"I'm personally not taking the position, 'Here we go again,'" Daniels said. "Any time you have an injury there is risk for recurrence down the line. What

we're seeing is effectively an extension of what he dealt with last summer, at a significantly more severe level."

Darvish was still effective when he was on the mound last season, going 10-7 with a 3.20 ERA. But he seemed to lack the same kind of life on his pitches that he had his first two years, when he was in the running for rookie of the year and then logged more than 200 innings.

"I feel bad for him. I have empathy for him," first-year Rangers manager Jeff Banister said. "No doubt, there's some feeling there. You never feel good about any athlete in any sport that has some obstacles that they need to overcome."

The Rangers already had one spot up for grabs in the rotation. Now, a group that includes Ross Detwiler, Nick Tepesch, Chi-Chi Gonzalez and Anthony Ranaudo is vying for two.

"It's obviously a bad hop," Banister said, "but also, through every obstacle there's an opportunity. Let's never lose sight of that."

Braves end Red Sox win-run to remain clean

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Anthony Dison pitched 1/3 inning in relief, A.J. Johnson and Vincent Camacho drove in a pair of runs, and the Tanapag Braves went on to an 8-6 win over the Red Sox in the Saipan Little League's Major division on Saturday at the Miguel "Tan Ge" Pangelinan ballfield.

Dison relieved Vincent Camacho at the bottom of the sixth when Shane Mallens was up to bat with still no outs, and runners at first and second. He forced Mallens to ground out to Antonio Norita, who fielded it cleanly to Steven Kileliman at first base for the first out.

Devon Pangelinan walked, but he was left stranded on base after Dison retired Marty Taisacan and Rita Agulto to end the game.

It was the Braves' fifth straight triumph and in the process ending the four-game winning run by the Red Sox.

Camacho went 2-for-4 with a pair of runs and an RBI double in the third and an RBI walk in the Braves' six-run fifth inning.

He also started for the Braves giving up one earned run on five hits with seven strikeouts and one walk.

IT&E Comets 13, McDonald's 3

The IT&E Comets scored four runs each in the first and fifth innings to beat Team McDonald's via the mercy rule.

The Comets only had four hits against the bullpen of McDonald's with triples each by Devin Ayuyu and Forrest Pangelinan in the first and third innings, a double by Ross Ariola, and an RBI single by Keyshawn Mike.

But McDonald's starter John Acosta and reliever John Santos had a combined 15 walks with the Comets' base runners scoring eight times.

It was the Comets' second straight win after coasting to a 17-2 decision over the Little Padres last Tuesday, while the loss foiled the 10-5 triumph of Team McDonald's last Thursday.

Falcons 40, Jets 0

The Falcons used a 22-run first inning in zipping past the Jets. They blasted three



JON PEREZ

The Falcons' Christopher Gonzales heads toward home plate to score one of his team's 40 runs against the Jets in the Major division of the Saipan Little League last Saturday at the Miguel Basa "Tan Ge" Pangelinan ballfield.

inside-the-park home runs on their way to 22 hits.

JUNIOR LEAGUE Falcons 10, Fielders 6

Henry Aguon and Noel Cabrera went 2-for-4 each and scored two runs apiece for the Falcons. Aguon also had two RBIs to

bring in Cabrera in the fourth and sixth with singles.

Cabrera also tossed 3.2 innings giving up three runs on three hits that included a three-run shot to Don Ada, who drove in Jose Camacho and Kimo Aingalen, and a double to Neldreyton Skerei.

NEWBIES

From Page 28

and definition of my body. I was aiming for 3-5 percent body fat," said Rebong, who became serious in weight training way back in the Philippines.

Diaz, meanwhile, had a home gym where he trains and uses calisthenics and break dancing for cross training.

SCHORR

From Page 28

match to extend his win streak in his age group this season. The 13-year-old junior player won the first two tournaments under the 2014-2015 calendar of Northern Mariana Islands Tennis Association as he defeated Vincent Tudela in both the Tan Holdings Tennis Classic and Coconut Tennis Classic.

In the PIC tournament, Schorr, a losing semifinalist in the same contest last year, boosted his chances to win the division this time after sweeping his first two matches. He downed Hwan Woo Chin in the quarterfinals, 6-0, 6-1, and

"This is my first time to join. I said I just want to try competing. I'm happy with the result and at the same time surprised," said the 29-year-old break dancing instructor, who teaches classes at Marianas High School and at the Minatichom Atdao pavilion.

"I built my own gym at home. I had some more equipment coming in and I also use my

also eased past Ken Song in the upper bracket semis, 6-1, 6-0. Song made it to the Final Four after a 6-1, 6-3 victory over Clayton Izuka, a 6-0, 6-0 winner against Allan Lee, while Chin set a quarterfinals date with Schorr following a 6-2, 4-6, 6-3 win against Jeffrey Seo.

In the lower half of the draw, Kim beat Haruya Eda in the quarterfinals, 6-1, 6-3, and foiled another Schorr-Tudela title tiff after eliminating the latter in the semis, 6-1, 6-4. Eda earned the right to face Kim in the semis after ousting A.J. Hudkins, 6-1, 6-3, while Tudela marched into the Final Four after a 6-0, 6-1 triumph over Steven Goodwin, a 6-2, 6-3 victory

own body weight for training," added Diaz, who only had four weeks of preparation.

Regino Celis topped the junior bodybuilding event, while George Pangelinan finished second. Dicky Fera was the other competitor.

Celis, who won the junior physique category in last year's Dee Clayton Classic, said he trained hard and went on a strict

against Joshua Abragan.

Meanwhile, two other junior players bagged division championships in the opening week of the annual tournament.

Luther Lizama took the boys U18 singles crown after prevailing in a round-robin contest. He avenged his finals loss to Colin Ramsey in last month's Coconut Tennis Classic, after sweeping the latter in last Friday's first match, 7-5, 6-2. Lizama then secured the division crown following an easy 6-0, 6-0 victory over Woon Sun Cho last Saturday. Ramsey settled for the runner-up honors as he also dominated Cho yesterday, 6-1, 6-1.

In the girls U18 singles, Carol Lee nailed her second straight

Andrew then followed it up with a 21-19 decision against Jonathan Jonah and Quintin Ramsey.

They lost to Cramer and Johnson to drop to the loser's bracket where they needed a 21-18 victory over Hinson and De Leon to arrange a finals date with their tormentors.

It was also the same story in the girls' side with Demapan and Frink sweeping their four games to beat 11 other pairs.

Demapan and Frink had an easy road to the finals and

quickly dispatched Nilani Cepeda and Julie Reyes, 21-5; downed Nicole Arenovski and Adele Hudkins, 21-11; and trounced Lauren Alegria and Aimi Iwan, 21-7, to secure the first finals spot.

Arenovski and Hudkins, who started with a 21-11 decision over Russell Juvan and Rustine Valina, had a longer route after dropping to the loser's bracket.

They squeezed out a 21-19 win over Knohlynn Gechig and Sabrina Pangelinan, scored an

easy 21-5 victory against Emily Jones and Beryl Kohonen, before completing a 21-11 decision over Alegria and Iwan to move on to the finals.

The champion pairs then teamed up with professional players in an exhibition match, which was still being played at press time.

The 23rd Annual Marianas Cup Beach Volleyball Festival continues next weekend with the Marianas Kids Cup U13 and U17 divisions.

He was forcing the Fielders to hit grounders in the early innings but lost control in the top of the fourth, with two outs, and was later relieved by Jester Kintaro.

Kintaro came in when Dai Podziewski was up to bat and later singled. He struck out Tyrese Camacho to end the inning.

SENIOR LEAGUE Combets 5, Braves 3

Brandon Pua tossed for six innings surrendering two earned runs on five hits, fanning five and walking one.

Lorenzo Sebastian came in the seventh to preserve the win. He gave up a single to Jayjay Fejeran, but forced Mario Aguon to fly out and struck out E.J.

Nekaifes to move one out away from victory.

Sebastian hit Ernie Dela Cruz by pitch and Jay Kalen reached safely on first base on a Franko Nakamura error.

Cody Omenkar, who doubled in the sixth, struck out to end the game.

Enforcers 13, Fielders 4

Henry Lizaman pitched almost a complete game and was tagged with one earned run on seven hits, retiring five batters and walking four more.

Franklin Lizama had an RBI triple in the Enforcers' eight-run fifth inning rally, while Henry Lizama went 2-for-4 with two runs and an RBI.

Eye Sees, Mawati thwart foes

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Eye Sees and Mawati pulled off close wins in the 2015 DLX Invitational Basketball League last Friday night at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

Mawati edged Team Familia, 55-54, off Jerome Reyes' put-back to improve its record to 2-2, while Eye Sees moved up to a 3-1 card following a 79-74 victory over Maplas (1-3) in the second game.

Reyes drilled the go-ahead basket in the paint in the closing seconds of the match, while Team Familia missed three consecutive shots in the end to absorb its third loss in as many games.

Arjay Nonato top-scored for Mawati with his 14 points, while Reyes also finished in twin digits, knocking in 13. Reyes had a good start, drilling 6 markers in the first period to give Mawati a shaky 17-16 advantage. The game remained close in the last three periods with Randy Pelisamen leading Team Familia and his basket handling his squad its last taste of the lead before Reyes stole the thunder from him with the point-blanked shot.

Pelisamen paced Team Familia with his 21 markers, while Ray Olopai was the other double-figure scorer for the squad with his 11.

In the second game, Eye Sees

nailed crucial free throws in the fourth quarter to foil Maplas' comeback bid.

Eye Sees went up by twin digits at the end of the third, 56-46, but was threatened by Maplas' rally late in the final canto before the former got out of the woods with its decent free throw shooting. Eye Sees scored all of its last 5 points from the foul line with Lauro Lim hitting three and Jerome Directo and Angelo Fernando adding one each.

Jomar Manzano top-scored for Eye Sees with his 29 points, making 12 of them in the fourth to keep the team's safe distance. Edmark Mendoza had 21 markers to lead Maplas' losing cause.

First Game

Mawati 55 – Nonato 14, Reyes 13, Larot 8, Enriquez 6, Gontar 4, Ibanez 3, Rejano 2.

Team Familia 54 – R. Pelisamen 25, R. Olopai 11, Kenner 9, J. Pelisamen 5, Kaipat 3.

Scoring by quarters: 17-16, 27-32, 43-41, 55-54.

Second Game

Eye Sees 79 – Manzano 29, Lim 18, Fernando 10, Quemado 10, Directo 5, Damatan 4.

Maplas 74 – Mendoza 21, Yalung 14, Cortez 10, Odicta 10, M. Usi 8, Verano 4.

Scoring by quarters: 15-15, 31-28, 56-46, 79-74.

ACKERMAN

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Ansari Abildaeva, 6-0, 6-1, and her team notched another sweep as Kamoe also prevailed against Emma Nurgazieva, 6-4, 6-3, and Rengiil and Kamoe defeated Saara Kunakunova and Nurgazieva in the doubles, 6-2, 7-5.

With its perfect record on pool play, Pacific Oceania knocked out favored Singapore and set up a semis date with Group B runner-up Iran. Against Iran, Ackerman secured the win when she slipped past Yasmin Masouri, 2-6, 6-4,

6-2. Kamoe earlier gave Pacific Oceania the victory in singles 2 after she thwarted Sadaf Sadegh Vaziri, 6-4, 6-3, and the former later teamed up with Rengiil in sweeping Mansouri and Vaziri, 6-1, 6-0.

Regardless of the results Pacific Oceania's finals duel against Sri Lanka yesterday, Ackerman and her two teammates are already assured of a trip to Australia, which will host the last qualifying tournament for the Junior Fed Cup World Finals. The Top 4 teams in the qualifier will compete in the world finals.

TRIUMPH

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son and Karlo De Leon.

Johnson had no difficulty shifting to the sand court after he previously won an indoor boys' volleyball crown with the Saipan International School Geckos last year in the Marianas Interscholastic Sports Organization.

Eina and Nakashima opened their campaign with a 21-19 win over A.J. Hambros and Joshua

Dove sponsors NMIFA women's league

By **ROSELYN B. MONROYO**
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REPORTER

Northern Mariana Islands Football Association and D&Q Saipan have reached an agreement recently for the sponsorship of NMIFA women's league and its other related programs for female soccer players in the CNMI.

D&Q Saipan through one of its suppliers, Unilever, has committed \$30,000 for NMIFA's women's program for three years. D&Q Saipan resident manager Max P. Kretzers turned in part of the sponsorship money to NMIFA president Jerry Tan in a brief ceremony yesterday at the Oleai Sports Complex Field. Representatives of various football clubs and several female players were present to witness the turnover ceremony.

As part of the agreement, NMIFA's women's league will now be called Dove Women's Football League. Dove is one of the Unilever products D&Q distributes here and in Guam.

"We are happy to be part of this women's league as we want to help make the sport stronger in the CNMI and encourage more female players to come out and join soccer," Kretzers said. "Our supplier, Unilever, has some available funds and they are glad to help. Our previous business development manager encourages as to get into sports and connect our products with the sports community so this partnership really fits."

Tan said the sponsorship money will be used to defray



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Players in the Dove Women's Football League pose for a group photo before D&Q Saipan turned over part of the sponsorship money to the league in a brief ceremony last Saturday at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.

the cost of running the league and other programs for women's football, such as clinics and more tournaments.

"We are very grateful to D&Q and its supplier, Unilever for their support. As you know, NMIFA is a non-profit group and it's really costly to run a program, such as the women's league, yearround. As much as possible we want to minimize the charges and fees that we have to impose to teams, players, and club, so this sponsorship will really help realize that goal," Tan said.

"It's (sponsorship) great news to our female players because usually it's our men's teams that get help from sponsors. On behalf of NMIFA and its executive and women's committee, I would like to say thank you to



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

D&Q Saipan resident manager Max P. Kretzers, third left, turns over the check to NMIFA president Jerry Tan. The check represents part of the \$30,000 sponsorship to the Dove Women's Football League and NMIFA's women's football program. Also in the photo are the league's players, NMIFA general secretary Ross Zapanta, left, and NMIFA Executive Committee member Vickie Izuka, right.

D&Q and Unilever. Their sponsorship just made it more affordable for teams and players to join the league. Also, the sponsorship

is very timely because more young female players are into the program," Tan added.

Seven teams are competing

in the Dove Women's Football League and majority of them are U18 players. Several players in the women's league

are also suiting up for various clubs that are participating in NMIFA's spring and fall youth leagues.

Jets walk off in 9th on Starz errors

By **JON PEREZ**
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REPORTER



Dave Matagolai drove in a run and the Jets scored two more on the North Starz's consecutive errors to complete a 6-5 come-from-behind win in last Friday's Saipan Baseball League game at the Francisco M. "Tan Ko" Palacios Baseball Field.

The walk-off win was the first triumph this season by the struggling Jets of manager Froilan Camacho after eight games while handing their victims a sixth loss against one victory.

The Starz, up 5-3 entering the bottom of the ninth, only needed three outs to give Jonathan Tenorio, who pitched a complete game, the win.

Luck, however, sided with the Jets that night.

Terson Eina led off with a walk, but Keola Camacho had an infield fly that was caught by first baseman John Acosta for the first out. Matagolai singled to drive in Eina and later scored on left fielder Ricardo Dela Cruz's

throwing error to tie the count.

Tenorio then forced A.J. Evangelista to a pop-up fly that was caught by Starz's Jonathan Wilson for the second out.

Mike Muna got on base on a fielding error by E.J. Tenorio and scored the winning run on another error by the Starz third baseman.

Matagolai tossed eight innings allowing four runs, all unearned, on five hits with five strikeouts and two walks.

Eina held down the Starz at the top of the ninth and after giving up a lead-off triple to Wally Emul, who scored on an error by centerfielder Evangelista, retired Jesse Sablan and Nicko Martin.

Eina walked Dela Cruz but he ended the inning by striking out E.J. Tenorio to set up the thrilling finale.

Matagolai went 2-for-5 with two runs and an RBI, while Palmermon Monkeya had a 2-for-4 performance at the plate.

Jonathan Tenorio pitched a complete game but could not close out with the win. He surrendered six runs, two earned, on eight hits with one strikeout and two walks.

Ackerman, 2 make Junior Fed Cup main draw

By **ROSELYN B. MONROYO**
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REPORTER



The CNMI's Tammy Ackerman and her two teammates earned a spot in the main draw of the qualifier for the Junior Fed Cup World Finals after advancing to the finals of the 2015 Junior Fed Cup Asia/Oceania Pre Qualifying.

Ackerman, Palau's Ayana Rengiil, and Fiji's Mulan Kamoe are playing for the Pacific Oceania Team, which blanked Iran, 3-0, in the semifinals of the pre-qualifier last Saturday in Kuching, Malaysia. Ackerman and company were scheduled to meet Sri Lanka in the finals of the 14-nation tournament yesterday and results of their matches were unavailable at press time.

Before their semis victory

over Iran, the trio swept their pool play matches to rule Group A and bag a semis berth. Pacific Oceania first stunned top-ranked Singapore, 2-1, last Wednesday. Kamoe won the singles 2 against Goh Loon Yee, 6-3, 7-6, while Ackerman fell to Charmaine Seah, 2-6, 6-3, 2-6. Kamoe and Rengiil topped the deciding doubles, 6-4, 6-4.

Up next for the squad was Turkmenistan and Kamoe and Ackerman sealed the victory early after sweeping Diana Bezrutenchenko, 6-0, 6-0, and Arzuv Klycheva, 6-0, 6-0, respectively. Kamoe and Rengiil completed the sweep with a similar 6-0, 6-0 triumph over Maral Ahmedova and Klycheva.

Ackerman got her second win in the singles against Krygyzstan's

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The CNMI's Tammy Ackerman, right, joins her teammates and coach for a group photo before playing in one of their elimination round games in the 2015 Junior Fed Cup Asia/Oceania Pre Qualifying in Malaysia last week.



**Lowly 76ers
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Hawks, 92-84**

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Newbies stun favorites in bodybuilding tilt

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

First-time competitors Alvin Rebong and Augustine Diaz bested the favorites for a 1-2 finish in the inaugural Marianas Muscle Bodybuilding Competition last Saturday at the Pedro P Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe.

Rebong ruled the men's bodybuilding event while Diaz finished second. They both defeated a field that included veterans Donovan Mendiola, Jun Riodique, and crowd favorite Aaron Tomokane.

Both Rebong and Diaz said they only had a few weeks to prepare for the event, and decided at the last minute to join the competition.

"I'm preparing for the September event but I was invited

to join a few days ago. I wasn't expecting to win," said the 44-year-old Rebong, who is a gym instructor at Saipan World Resort.

He added that he followed a strict diet and cardio just to trim down from 184 lbs for his competition weight of 150 lbs in one month.

"I was after the symmetry

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JON PEREZ
Alvin Rebong, right, and Augustine Diaz show off their winning poses in last Saturday's inaugural Marianas Muscle Bodybuilding Competition at the Pedro P Tenorio Multi-purpose Center in Susupe.

Schorr on a roll, tops Kim

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER



Robbie Schorr notched his third straight boys U14 singles crown after surviving Tony Kim in their division title duel, 6-3, 2-6, 7-5, in the 15th PIC Tennis Championships yesterday at the Pacific Islands Club hard courts.

Schorr fought back from an early deficit, 1-3 and flirted with a sorry loss as he also went down, 4-5, before rallying in the more than two-hour

See SCHORR on Page 26



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Robbie Schorr makes a backhand return from the baseline during his boys U14 title duel against Tony Kim in the 15th PIC Tennis Championships yesterday at the Pacific Islands Club hard courts.

Cramer-Johnson, Demapan-Frink pairs triumph

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

Misaki Cramer and Andrew Johnson and Zena Demapan and Phalai Frink ruled their respective divisions in yesterday's Marianas Junior Cup Under-19 Beach Volleyball Festival at the

Fiesta Resort's beach side.

The Saipan-born Cramer, who is now based in Guam, teamed up with Johnson where they bested 10 other pairs in the boys' division. They swept

all of their four matches, beating T.J. Eina and Nak Nakashima in the finals, 21-17. It was Cramer and Johnson's second straight win over the Eina-Nakashima

tandem as they also scored a 21-

11 decision in the early stages of the tournament to clinch the first finals berth.

Cramer and Johnson also defeated Sammy Litulumar and Kimo Olopai, 21-16, and scored a 21-4 triumph over Billy Hin-

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JON PEREZ

Boys' finalists, from left, Misaki Cramer and Andrew Johnson and Nak Nakashima and T.J. Eina pose at the net during the Marianas Junior Cup Under-19 Beach Volleyball Festival at the Fiesta Resort's beach side.



JON PEREZ

Girls' finalists, from left, women's Nicole Arenovski and Adele Hudkins, and Zena Demapan, and Phalai Frink pose at the net during the Marianas Junior Cup Under-19 Beach Volleyball Festival at the Fiesta Resort's beach side.